PARANORMAL UNDERGROUND®

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January 2017

GAVIN KELLY
Phantasmic Ghost Hunters

Christina
THE VAMPIRE

SUMMONED
by the Internet

6 HAUNTED ASYLUMS
YOU CAN ACTUALLY VISIT

ALSO INSIDE:

- Exposing the Top Secret Treaty Between the U.S. and Aliens
- Fate: Does Everything Happen for a Reason?
- 7 Motivational Stones to Keep You Moving
- The Legend of Friday the 13th

Oregon Ghost Conference
March 31, 2017 - April 2, 2017

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http://oregonghostconference.com

About the OGC:

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Join us for a weekend of "ghosts at the coast" to connect with and learn from some of the top paranormal experts in our area. Do not miss this great event!

$5 admission to vendor and speaker areas for the entire weekend!

For More Information/Contact:

Main Website: http://www.oregonghostconference.com

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DON ALLISON

Don is the author of I Met a Ghost at Gettysburg: A Journalist's Journey Into the Paranormal. Don was a devout skeptic, even going so far as to doubt his own grandmother's claims of experiences in a haunted house. But after encountering the unexplained many times, he reluctantly concluded he indeed has experienced the paranormal.

Eventually, after what Don described as a mind-blowing paranormal encounter at Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, he could contain his curiosity no longer. He decided to write about his experiences and to share the science behind what he has encountered.

http://www.fadedbanner.com/

STEPHANIE ALMAZAN

Stephanie is a writer, editor, music junkie, and *Buffy the Vampire Slayer* diehard. She is currently a freelance writer and editor and a contributing editor at Culture Collide and The Lineup. Stephanie launched music lifestyle site Culture Collide and was the editor-in-chief of print magazines *Culture Collide: Travel With Purpose* and *Ragged*.

At DailyCandy, she launched the music vertical, curated the weekly DailyCandy Jams, festival-hopped, and managed and edited seven of 12 city editions and newsletters.

http://stephaniealmazan.com/

WINTER M. BALEFIRE

Winter has been an occultist and paranormal researcher for nearly 20 years. She has been published repeatedly since 2009 and has also been the subject of interviews regarding both areas of expertise.

Writing and witchcraft have always remained close to Winter's heart, feeling both require a profound understanding of one's self and environment. When she's not exploring the macabre and bizarre, Winter enjoys reading tarot, as well as writing poetry and short stories. All of her work can be viewed on her Website.

http://www.winterbalefire.com/

SEAN CASTEEL

Sean is a freelance journalist who has been writing about UFOs, alien abduction, and many other paranormal subjects since 1989. His writing has appeared in *UFO Magazine*, Tim Beckley's *UFO Universe*, *FATE Magazine*, *Mysteries Magazine*, and *Open Minds Magazine*, among others.

Sean has written or contributed to more than 30 books for Global Communications and Inner Light Publications, all of which are available from Amazon.com. His books include *The Heretic's UFO Guidebook*, which analyzes a selection of Gnostic Christian writings and their relationship to the UFO phenomenon, and *Signs and Symbols of the Second Coming*, in which he interviews several religious and paranormal experts about how prophecies of the Second Coming of Christ may be fulfilled.

http://www.amazon.com/author/seancasteel

ALAN D.D.

Alan is a writer of paranormal romances and other works. In his books, he mixes human relationships with plots involving the supernatural world and magic. Alan is a blogger and a journalist. "I try to be the best mess I can be and help others to do the same, because there will never be enough freaks in this world."

http://tintanocturna.blogspot.com/

MORGAN FARR

Morgan has a bachelor's degree in English. She enjoys writing and reading, especially about the paranormal. She is not affiliated with any paranormal groups, Websites, or businesses. She maintains a healthy infatuation for all things paranormal due to personal experiences with the unexplained.

Morgan knows a little bit about a lot of paranormal topics from research she has done for fun throughout her life. She is thrilled to have her freelance articles published in *Paranormal Underground* magazine.

BOB FOUNTAIN

As an investigator and evidence analyst with Spectral Tech, a paranormal investigative group that serves the surrounding Memphis area, Bob and the team try to help their clients find answers while helping to educate them about the paranormal in the process.

As a special projects manager primarily involved in process engineering, and because documentation and analysis is paramount to serious investigations, Bob was drawn to take more than a passing interest and become actively involved in the study of different paranormal phenomena.

http://www.spectraltech.org/

KAREN FRAZIER

Karen is a psychic medium and cohost of *Paranormal Underground Radio: In The Dark*. She is the author of *Avalanche of Spirits: The Ghosts of Wellington*, *Dancing With the Afterlife*, and *Pioneer Spirits: Investigating the Haunted Lewis County Historical Museum*.

Karen holds a bachelor's and master's in metaphysical science from the University of Metaphysics, as well as a Ph.D. in metaphysical parapsychology from the University of Sedona. She is an ordained minister/metaphysical practitioner with the International Metaphysical Ministry and an Usui Reiki Master/Teacher. She has completed courses in energy healing, including quantum touch, crystal healing, sound healing, and aromatherapy.

http://www.authorkarenfrazier.com/

TERRI J. GAROFALO

Terri is a paranormal investigator, as well as the artist and writer behind Entities-R-Us, Ghost Hunter Comic. She's a freelance artist, illustrator, and designer in Hyde Park, New York.

http://www.entities-r-us.com/

WILLIE WINDWALKER GIBSON

Willie is a shaman and supernatural consultant. He works by himself, as well as with his wife, Schmon. He belongs to the Paranormal Clergy and Dominion Ministries. Willie is the author of two books detailing his 50-year journey in the paranormal, *The Shaman Windwalker* and *Soul Warriors*.

Willie has appeared on A&E's *Cursed: The Bell Witch* (2015) and CMTs *Most Shocking Ghosts* (2004). He also hosted his own public access show for 12 years, called *Spiritual Gifts and Wonders*, based in his hometown of Louisville, Kentucky. He also has his own group of sensitives, called Soul Warriors, who are based all over the US.

http://www.shamanwindwalker.com/

CHERYL KNIGHT-WILSON

Cheryl is editor-in-chief of *Paranormal Underground* magazine and producer of *Paranormal Underground Radio: In The Dark*. She has more than 20 years of experience as a professional writer and editor and has published hundreds of articles on topics ranging from advanced technology to paranormal investigation.

Cheryl's previous magazine experience includes roles as senior and managing editor for several business publications.

https://paranormalunderground.net/

LEON LESTER

Leon is a spiritual artist, writer, and astrologer who has been researching spiritual phenomena since his late teens. He is particularly interested in the enlightened state and has been guided by enlightened wisdom for over 10 years via his spiritual teacher Isira Sananda. In recent years, Leon has become a successful artist, but also continues to write prolifically about spiritual topics.

http://leonlester.com.au/

SILVERMOON MEDICYN & VICKI RATLIFF

Michaela Rand, also known as Silvermoon Medicyn, is a medicine woman and metaphysician who works closely with awakening souls to balance the dark and light within each person. Her areas of focus include neo-cosmic shamanism with a focus on Hoodoo and emotional energy healing. In her work, she uses transpersonal therapy and energy psychology, working with tools such as crystals, oils, acupressure, rattles, and herbs to help bring about healing.

Vicki is Michaela's business partner. She works in a medical laboratory by day and loves to explore various spiritual pathways and occult topics in her free time. She helps craft one-of-a-kind creations for Silvermoon Medicyn and assists in vending herbs, oils, and stones.

http://silvermoonmedicyn.com/

JOHN DAVID MILLER

John spent every summer as a kid playing in the caves surrounding Greenville, West Virginia, deep in the Appalachian Mountains. This instilled in him a lifelong passion for chasing adventure and encounters with wild animals, all the while studying ancient civilizations around the world.

John has also been a contributor to *Smithsonian Magazine* and *Ancient Origins* online magazine. This would prepare him somewhat for what he would find one day buried on the side of a mountain that contains the graves of his ancestors.

MICHELLE M. PILLOW

Michelle is a *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author writing in many fiction genres, including the Dragon-Shifter series *Dragon Lords* and *Captured by a Dragon-Shifter* and the mischievously magical *Warlocks MacGregor*. A skeptical believer, she has a fascination with anything paranormal.

Michelle loves to travel and try new things, whether it's a paranormal investigation of an old Vaudeville theater or climbing Mayan temples in Belize. She has a BGS in history/business with an English minor and a photography degree. She is the co-owner of www.TheRavenBooks.com.

http://michellepillow.com/

THE LINEUP

The Lineup is home to the web's creepiest and most mysterious stories. They seek out gritty tales of historical true crimes, horror, and the paranormal, and then they share their latest dark obsession with fellow enthusiasts.

http://www.the-line-up.com/

KRYSTLE VERMES

Krystle is a long-time paranormal enthusiast and professional writer with a bachelor's degree in print journalism. When she isn't composing pieces for her own paranormal blog, GetSpooked.net, she's recording her popular podcast, *All Day Paranormal*.

http://getspooked.net/

CHAD WILSON

A freelance writer, Chad is the publisher of *Paranormal Underground* magazine. His interest in the paranormal led to the creation of www.ParanormalUnderground.net.

Chad has investigated with East Tennessee Paranormal Research Society and counts Waverly Hills Sanatorium, the Villisca Axe Murder House, Bobby Mackey's Music World, the Queen Mary, and private residences among his investigations.

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EDITORIAL

PUBLISHER
Chad Wilson

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Cheryl Knight-Wilson
editor@paranormalunderground.net

SCIENCE EDITOR
J.D. Harrison

CONTRIBUTORS
Don Allison
Stepanie Almazan
Winter Balefire
Sean Casteel
Alan D.D.
Morgan Farr
Bob Fountain
Karen Frazier
Terri J. Garofalo
Willie Windwalker Gibson
Leon Lester
Silvermoon Medicyn
John David Miller
Michelle M. Pillow
Vicki Ratliff
The Lineup

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Paying Attention to the Universe

Sometimes I believe the Universe speaks to us ... each and every one of us. In fact, I think it happens every day in one form or another. The act may be subtle, or it may be an in-your-face, you-can't-ignore-me type of message.

Have you been seeing a certain animal lately more times than usual? Have you noticed a specific number popping up quite a bit lately? Have you noticed song lyrics on the radio coming on that seem to coincide with something currently on your mind? What about a certain color? How about a recurring dream you're having? Or, have you encountered seemingly impassible life roadblocks or a tragic event recently?

Chad Wilson, Publisher

All of the above could mean more than what they appear to mean on the surface. Many of these things have deeper, spiritual meanings that may pertain to what's going on in your life.

But, given day-to-day life events, struggles, and responsibilities, it's all too easy to just keep on going with business as usual and not even give the Universe a second glance.

So, I have a challenge for you, or maybe it's not a challenge at all. Start off 2017 by keeping a journal of "signs" that you notice around you each day. Write them down. Look them up online to find out what they might mean given what's going on in your life. Then, decide how you can take those signs and implement them into your life.

For instance, if you receive a sign that it's time for a big change, like moving, getting a new job, or something else, write down ways you can make that happen. Or, for instance, if you see a sign that you need more positivity in your life, write down ways you can create that positivity.

Listening to the Universe isn't always hard. It's just a matter of paying attention. I want to share a story with you that I was given permission to share.

My friend was depressed and at a point where she wondered what her purpose in life really was. She expressed this with me one day as we were out running errands. And within five minutes of that conversation, the Universe responded back.

After expressing her frustrations to me, we pulled into a sandwich shop. Upon walking inside, one of the sandwich makers started a conversation directly with my friend. The employee began talking about how happy she was to be alive and working, even working at a sandwich shop. After a bit more conversation, we took our sandwiches and got back into the car.

My friend looked at me and realized what had just happened. That conversation at the sandwich shop had a deeper meaning. For her, the Universe had just spoken directly to her.

So, I believe that if we pay attention to the signs around us, no matter how big or small, the impact is meaningful and long-lasting. ◆

February 3-5
Days of the Dead: Atlanta
Atlanta, Georgia
http://www.daysofthedead.net/

February 11
American Hauntings' Annual Dead of Winter Festival (FREE admission with non-perishable food donation)
Macoupin County Courthouse
Carlinville, Illinois
http://prairieghosts.com/winter.html

February 24-25
UFO Paranormal Summit
Quinault Beach Resort & Casino
Ocean Shores, Washington
http://www.ufosummit.com/

March 4
ParAmeriCon 2017
1863 Inn
Gettysburg, Pennsylvania
http://sorrellls.wixsite.com/paramericon

March 4
Underground Monster Carnival 6
OKC Fairgrounds
Oklahoma City, Oklahoma
http://www.undergroundmonstercarnival.com/

March 11-12
Gift of Light Expo
Ohio Expo Center
Columbus, Ohio
http://www.giftoflightexpo.com/

March 18
6th Annual Paranormal Unity Fest
Somervell County Expo Center
Glen Rose, Texas
https://www.eventbrite.com/e/6th-annual-paranormal-unity-fest-tickets-28696925276?aff=erelexpmlt

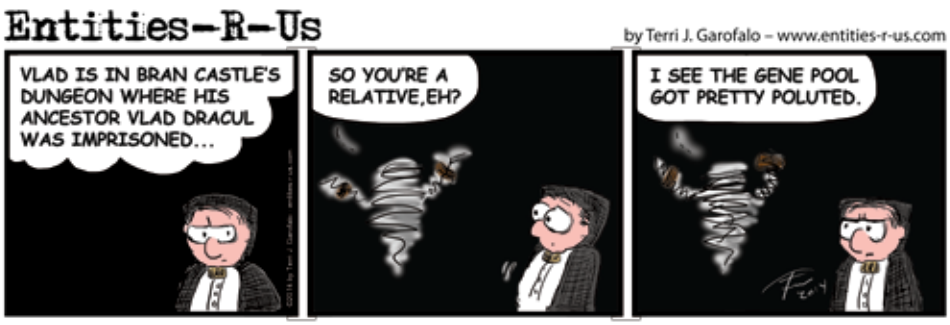
March 23-26
TransWorld's Halloween & Attractions Show
America's Center
St. Louis, Missouri
http://www.haashow.com/

March 31-April 2
Oregon Ghost Conference
Seaside Civic & Convention Center
Seaside, Oregon
http://www.oregonghostconference.com/

April 1-2
Gift of Light Expo
Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds
Cleveland, Ohio
http://www.giftoflightexpo.com/

April 21-22
Salem Con 3
Hawthorne Hotel
Salem, Massachusetts
http://www.mghparanormal.com/ ◆

Ghost Hunter Comic


Entities-R-Us
by Terri J. Garofalo – www.entities-r-us.com
VLAD IS IN BRAN CASTLE'S DUNGEON WHERE HIS ANCESTOR VLAD DRACUL WAS IMPRISONED...
SO YOU'RE A RELATIVE, EH?
I SEE THE GENE POOL GOT PRETTY POLUTED.

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Contact:
Cheryl Knight-Wilson
714-646-4197
editor@paranormalunderground.net

ART DIRECTION

ART DIRECTOR
Chad Wilson

DESIGN AND LAYOUT
Cheryl Knight-Wilson

ON THE COVER
Gavin Kelly,
Phantasmic Ghost Hunters

SOCIAL MEDIA

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editor@paranormalunderground.net

How to Effectively Document *Paranormal Activity*

In this month's "Paranormal Insider" column, we've asked our writers: "How do you or would you advise others to effectively document paranormal activity?" Here's what they had to say ...

* * * * *

"With a career in data analysis, I tell beginners that it is very important to document everything with consistent reference points, such as environmental conditions, times, type of activity, etc. With consistent data collection, one can easily spreadsheet multiple investigations and look for patterns or trends that might be overlooked during a single investigation, such as certain times that are predominant or certain members of the team draw more activity than others.

"If our field of study ever develops generally accepted formats, we can further share and analyze bigger databases and perhaps find universal truths we all wish to find."

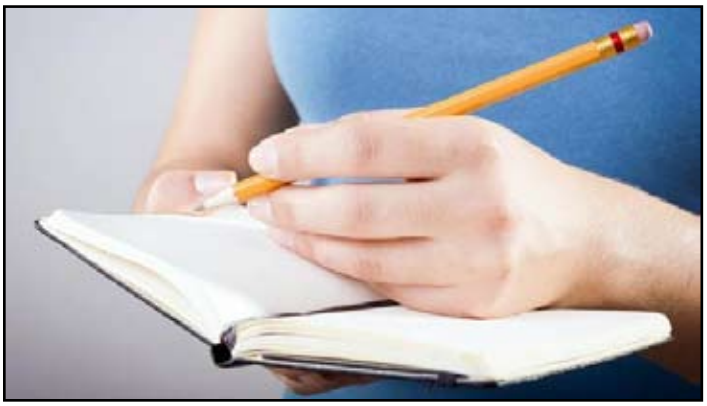
— Bob Fountain, Spectral Tech

"I encourage people to keep a written record of the activity with exact time, date, and details of what happened, as well as the situation surrounding the activity. I also ask them to verify that they checked non-paranormal causes for the activity. Then I ask if a pattern has emerged over time.

"Since I do most of my work from a psychic perspective, I encourage people doing psychic work to document what they have experienced psychically. Written form works for some, with dates, times, places, etc. But I like to use video. Then to share this with someone. This is of particular importance with people experiencing what might be premonitions."

— William Becker, Paranormal Insights, www.paranormalinsights.net

"Documenting paranormal activity begins by doing your research. Have an idea of what is considered good evidence and what is not. For example, know how to weed out background noise in recordings, like traffic, televisions, and radios. Know what to look for in



photos and what to ignore, like lens flares, insects, and dust. Remember when working with EMF detectors that they can be affected by everything from pipes to electrical outlets and wall clocks.

"Once you know what isn't paranormal, you'll have a better understanding of what is. From there, you should get as much footage and audio as you can and start sorting."

— Winter Balefire, paranormal researcher, occultist, and author

"The paranormal research documentation process can be extremely tedious at times. I advise creating a template of sorts that will make the method a little easier. In addition to audio, photographic, and/or videographic results, it is vitally important to notate and pay attention to environmental monitoring (EMF, static readings, temperature, humidity, radiation, etc), which allows the investigator to seek out patterns between personal encounters, collected data, and environmental results. In doing so, we can start to create and test relevant theories for paranormal activity or add to the ones previously generated in past years.

"Will we ever have definitive proof of the paranormal? I am not so sure that the mortal realm is supposed to know all of the blueprints for why or how supernatural phenomena exist. In my opinion, having in-depth documentation will lead us to the gateway of further knowledge about this vast realm."

— Nicole Strickland, San Diego Paranormal Research Society ◆

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PHANTASMIC GHOST HUNTERS: Into the Unknown ...

By Cheryl Knight

Country singer turned paranormal investigator, Gavin Kelly leads Phantasmic Ghost Hunters in an effort to document the unknown. And along with his teammate Paula Purcell, the Paducah, Kentucky-based duo has investigated across the U.S., including at St. Albans Sanatorium in Radford, Virginia; Ashmore Estates in Ashmore, Illinois; and Old South Pittsburg Hospital in South Pittsburg, Tennessee. The team also investigates reportedly haunted hospitals, mills, and schools.

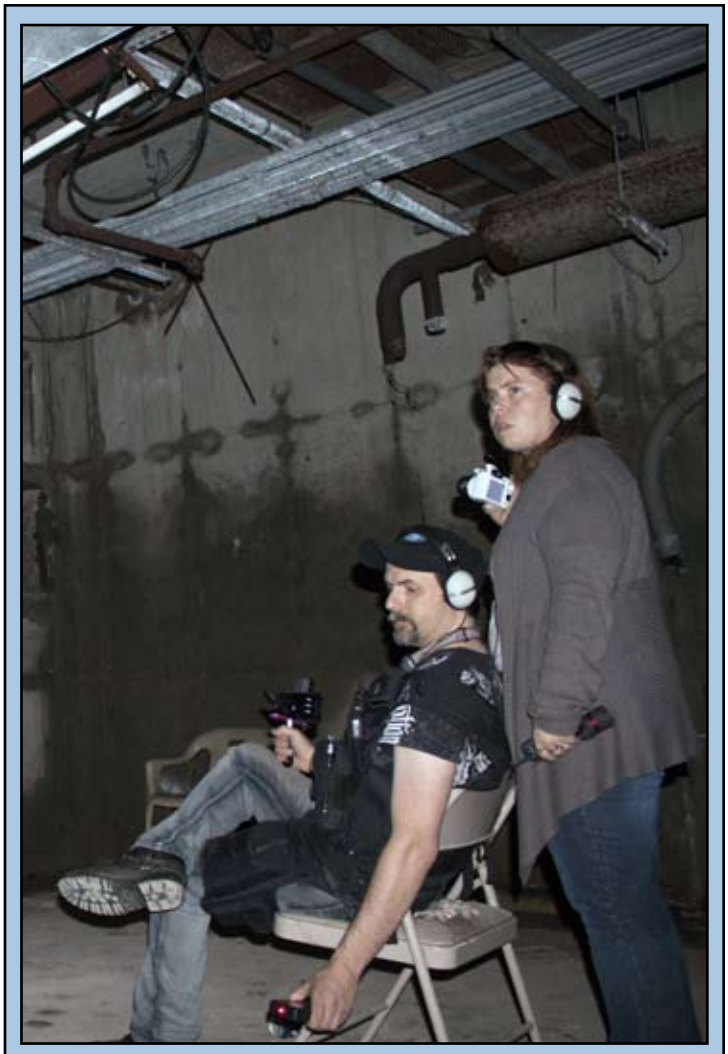
Originally from Southern California, Gavin was a child actor in TV shows, such as *Growing Pains* (Season 6, Episode 23, "Carols Carnival"). You can also catch him in Sony Pictures' *Country Strong* with Tim McGraw and Gwyneth Paltrow.

But as a musician and singer at heart, Gavin decided to move to Nashville in 1993 to enter the country music scene. Since then, he has written, recorded, and co-written with some of Nashville's top writers and musicians, was a regional finalist for USA Networks *Nashville Star* Season 3, and released his debut album with IMASTAR Records called *Honolulu Blue* (2011) — https://gavinkellymusic.bandcamp.com/album/honolulu-blue.

After forming Phantasmic Ghost Hunters four years ago, Gavin and Paula created *Ghostology 101*, a seminar they hold at local libraries to help educate communities on paranormal investigation. They also currently produce *The Paranormal Journey: Into the Unknown*, which follows Gavin and Paula as they investigate haunted abandoned asylums, sanitariums, and mental hospitals, along with crew members camera operators Nathan Douglas and Autumn Henson and basecamp watcher Sam Wahl.

Gavin recently spoke to *Paranormal Underground* about the team's mission, methodologies, captured evidence, and future endeavors. Continue reading to find out more!

* * * * *



Pictured above: Gavin Kelly and Paula Purcell investigate haunted asylums and other locations to find proof of the afterlife. In their spare time, Gavin performs country music and Paula is a region leader for the Girl Scouts of Kentuckiana.

Q: Talk about Phantasmic Ghost Hunters and its mission.

Gavin: Our mission is to document the unknown by capturing ground-breaking evidence of the paranormal through the eyes of the video cameras, audio recorders, and digital cameras. We want to help skeptics to believe that there is life after death and that we can communicate with spirits.

Q: What different types of locations has your team investigated?

Gavin: We've been to the far reaches of Corpus Christi, Texas, home of the USS Lexington, clear on up to Radford, Virginia, to the St. Albans Sanatorium — and everywhere in between. We will also get the opportunity to investigate some locations while we are out on the West Coast in January 2017.

Q: What equipment do you usually take with you on an investigation?

Gavin: We have a mobile command center loaded with EMF meters, digital recorders, DVR system with IR cameras, loads of mobile cameras, the Ovilus 3, and lots of devices from folks who want us to test them out, including Paranologies, Centrex Technologies, Sight Paranormal, and Phantom Lite.

Q: What methodologies do you use during investigations?

Gavin: We use physical communications using verbal questions and scientific experimentations, such as the ganzfeld experiment and the God Helmet. We will basically go in and talk to "them" like they are still alive; we carry on conversations and ask for them to join in.

We make sure we just don't go busting in. We allow the spirits to get comfortable with us before we even start an investigation.

Q: What case will you remember the most and why?

Gavin: I would say the most memorable experience we had was out at the Old South Pittsburg Hospital in South Pittsburg, Tennessee. The reason I picked this one is because we ended up with hardware damage.

Paula was sitting at the main nurses' station watching the DVR cameras. At the time Chad was our camera guy; he was with me in OR2. We were conducting an EVP session. I had a radio on me, and at the time it was not going off ... until we crossed over the threshold to go out into the hallway, when Paula came blaring through: "We have equipment damage!" Quickly grabbing my radio, I asked her to repeat herself. What happened was out of the corner of Paula's eye, she noticed the entire camera stand get shoved down, causing the weather plate to fly off and crack the glass on the camera.

Gavin is a signed country artist with Mirror Image Records in Nashville, Tennessee. You can also catch him in Sony Pictures' *Country Strong* with Tim McGraw and Gwyneth Paltrow.

Let me back up a bit here. We don't use tripods for our DVR cameras. We use heavy-duty mic stands with the round metal base (very heavy). So it took tremendous force to knock over the stand with the DVR camera attached to it. While Paula thought I was going to blow up, I was actually excited because that type of activity is extraordinary. The best part was, Paula frantically tried to connect the camera to see if it still worked before we got to the nurses' station, and it wouldn't work for her. I got there and evaluated the damage, connected the wires, and ... boom ... it worked like a charm.

Q: What is the most compelling evidence of the paranormal that you or your team has captured?

Gavin: An apparition running. I captured a moving apparition running using a hi8 digital Sony Handycam — a beautiful capture. Here is the link to the video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3cEZYujbjSg.

→

Gavin and Paula (pictured at left) bring their *Ghostology 101* seminar to local libraries to share information with communities about the ins and outs of paranormal investigation.

Q: Talk about common misconceptions about the paranormal field that you've encountered.

Gavin: Calling a false positive paranormal in nature before ruling out natural causes can be a major issue. In our *Ghostology 101* seminar, we'll teach you how to determine if the activity is "normal" before you could call it "paranormal." Plenty of things can cause activity, but to determine what is man-made is the chore.

Lots of investigators want to jump at the sight of orbs and claim them paranormal. But 99% of orbs are dust, pollen, particles, and moisture. One percent may actually be a real spirit orb. And the way to determine if it is real or not: A spirit orb will have its own illuminance; it will have things reflect through it; and it could quite possibly cast a shadow.

Cold spots can be caused by an open window, open door, cracks in the walls, cracks in the floor, poor insulation, etc.

Doors slamming shut ... this is usually caused from an air vacuum. For instance, opening a door or a window will cause a door to close.

Noises ... things that go bump in the night. Usually, this is caused by the house settling or pressure in the pipes under the house or in the walls.

Lights flickering could be old wiring, bad wiring, or critters chewing the wires in the walls.

Noises, bangs, and knocks could be trees hitting the building, wind, or animals. The list goes on and on.

Q: Tell us about your new paranormal television series on Amazon Prime, *Paranormal Journey: Into the Unknown*.

Gavin: *The Paranormal Journey: Into the Unknown* captured our adventures into the unknown — what we capture, how we capture it, is it good, is it evil, how we were affected. Did we capture ground-breaking evidence to make even a skeptic a true believer? It will be released October 31, 2017, as an Amazon Original Series.

Q: Whose work in the paranormal field do you respect the most and why?

Gavin: We respect work from other teams. Not one team is alike; they all have their own ways of conducting an investigation. They have their own methods of getting spirits to communicate with them. Since we are all "learning," it's not a bad idea to join forces with other teams to investigate a location.

Q: What locations do you have on your wish list to investigate?

Gavin: I'm going to choose locations out of the United States, such as castles in Ireland, the tunnels in London, Dracula's castle, the Shanghai mines, etc.

Q: What words of wisdom would you offer amateur ghost hunters investigating for the first time?

Gavin: As we say to all newcomers to *Ghostology 101*, do your research of the location and learn all you can about the property and occupants. Find out the location's history. Familiarize yourself with the location, interview the owners, and take a walk-through.

Also, learn about the gear, how it works, and how you should use it during an investigation. Do research on the devices before buying them. All in all, your best device is you — your eyes, ears, and nose.

* * * * *

To learn more about Gavin, Paula, and their team and projects, visit http://www.phantasmicghosthunters.com/ and https://www.facebook.com/PhantasmicGhostHunters/. ◆

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CHANNELING THE DARKNESS
WITH STRVNGERS' KYLE CRAIG

By Alan D.D., tintanocturna.blogspot.com

Nowadays it's a little depressing to find so many musical artists with the same image, same sound, same style, and same projects. It seems like creativity has been dying the past years. Luckily, there a very few exceptions to this rule, and one of those strange, special cases is Kyle Craig, from Strvngers, a darkwave/electro-pop duo from Edmonton, Alberta in Canada.

I recently found out that Kyle had many paranormal experiences, even as a child. And after exchanging a few messages, Kyle agreed to an interview about this lesser-known side of his life and the impact it had on him, both as a musician and as a human.

Read on to find out more, and don't forget to check out Strvngers' music at https://strvngersngp.bandcamp.com/album/strvngers.

* * * * *

Q: When was your first paranormal experience?

Kyle: I began experiencing strange "visits" from these shadow-like beings at a very young age. They would come into my room at night, and it felt like they would attack me spiritually as I would have an out-of-body experience and try to run into my parents' room to escape to safety.

As I got older, it kind of transformed and matured into what people would call "sleep paralysis." To this day I still experience this strange and terrifying phenomena.

I also lived in a haunted house as a young child. I remember hearing footsteps in the house, seeing things getting knocked over, strange sounds from the basement, etc., — the typical haunting stuff. One instance that stands out is at a birthday party of mine. A bunch of us were in the basement playing hide and go seek in the dark with flashlights, and when I went to shine the light in the direction of the old cold storage/furnace room, I saw a boy peaking around the furnace at me. After a few seconds of staring, I realized it was no kid I recognized from my birthday party and began to scream and ran upstairs to tell my mom.

Kyle Craig (pictured above at left) and Maria Joaquin (above at right) form the Canadian darkwave/electro-pop duo Strvngers. Kyle has experienced paranormal events since he was a child.

Years after we moved out of that house, my parents were running a small business in town, and a lady walked

in asking my mom if she was the same Craig family that used to live in "said" house. When my mom said yes, the lady asked her if our family had ever experienced anything weird when we lived there. My mom said no but told her that her kids (us) had always said that the house was haunted. That's when the lady revealed to my mom that she had in fact seen spirits of a young boy in the basement and an old man upstairs in the house.

When my mom told me when I was a grown man, it sent chills down my spine to finally know that after all the years of wondering what happened, I wasn't imagining things and there was actually something paranormal going on in that house. To this day, I sometimes dream about that house and have paranormal nightmares about it! Freaky!

Q: Where you skeptic to these things before you experienced it first-hand?

Kyle: No. I have always been a believer in the paranormal. There are so many things we don't understand in this universe. We can't be the only plane of existence or frequency. The world and Universe is far too vast for such small-minded thinking.

Q: How do people react when you tell them about this? Do they think you've lost your mind, do they want to know more, or do they not believe you at all?

Kyle: Sometimes I wonder that myself. I really don't feel as though I have to prove myself to anyone about the credibility of my stories, because I know what I went through as a kid and still to this day as an adult.

Q: Have the paranormal experiences changed you in any way? Do you feel like a different person now that you've had these experiences?

Kyle: I definitely feel more open to the spiritual world, which can be both positive and negative, depending on what is going on in my life. I find that I am the type of person who attracts spirits, both good and evil, depending on how I am living my life at the time.

Q: Would you say that there's a "trigger" for these things to happen? If someone wants to, can they provoke activity to happen in some way?

Kyle: I am no professional on the subject matter, but I do believe that some people are glowing lights that shine somehow in the darkness of the afterlife. Some people are magnets for spirits and entities. I firmly believe that many of us are "haunted" ourselves and have a sort of sixth sense that attracts or is in tune with the afterlife.

Pictured above, Kyle often wears a white mask during performances. He said that he is able to "channel the darkness" he has experienced and transform it into a melodic fashion.

Q: What about haunted houses? Have you ever visited one? Maybe done a concert in one?

Kyle: Other than living in my very own haunted house, I do not believe I have visited another one. I have never done a concert in a haunted house, but I think it would be cool to record an album in a house where someone was murdered in or has a history of paranormal activity! I might not be able to handle it though.

Q: As a musician, how is the influence of paranormal activity reflected in your music?

→

Strvngers member Kyle Craig believes his paranormal experiences have connected with his creative mind and spirit. He has heard phantom footsteps and sounds, seen full-bodied apparitions, and been visited by shadow-like beings. Strvngers self-released their debut album, Sonic Erotica, and then signed on to Negative Gain Productions for their second self-titled album.

Kyle: I am able to channel the darkness I have experienced and put it into a melodic fashion sometimes. Not all of Strvngers songs are dark and ominous, but I am able to write some very dark and deep music in my own personal time.

I feel a little more credible for being able to rock Ouija board shirts and live a little darker than others since I have been through paranormal experiences all my life!

Q: Did your paranormal experiences lead to your work in the music industry?

Kyle: No, but I do feel as though it is somehow connected with my creative mind and spirit.

Q: Is there a Strvngers song based in your experiences, or are they mixed in with them?

Kyle: Not yet. You never know, though, we still have many songs and albums ahead of us. Maybe we will do a spooky concept album sometime! Haha!

Q: In your point of view, is the paranormal something that is religion-related, or are they two different things?

Kyle: Religion and spirituality are two different things in my experiences. I really don't think a person needs to go to church every Sunday to worship a god. I find that just having some sort of faith and purity in your life goes a lot farther in a personal aspect.

I do feel more vulnerable to evil energy if I am stressed, tired, or going through a hard time in life though. That seems to be when the attacks begin to happen more frequently.

> "I began experiencing strange visits from these shadow-like beings at a very young age."

Q: What was the most recent paranormal experience you had?

Kyle: Most definitely the sleep paralysis. This usually happens to me a few times a month.

Q: Thank you so much for your time! Hope to keep hearing from you and from Strvngers!

Kyle: Thanks for asking! Stay Spooky!

* * * * *

To find out more about Kyle Craig and Strvngers, visit http://strvngers.com/ or https://www.facebook.com/strvngers/. ◆

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Explore the Unexplained With ...

Chuckie G.

Karen Frazier

FATE: Does Everything Happen for a Reason?

By Morgan Farr

Curiosity killed the pessimist. Maybe it did not totally kill my inner pessimist, but it certainly gave her a small jab to the gut. You see, I have never been one to follow the dogma that "everything happens for a reason." I tend to be politely skeptical at best when someone uses the saying. However, a recent conversation with an acquaintance made me wonder if my often pessimistic attitude (which I describe as me being a realist) is really the most rational.

This man told me a story of a book that changed his perspective about some very important things in his life. The book was referred to him by a friend, yet when he asked his friend to borrow it to read during a long flight, his friend told him that he was still reading it. With friends like these, right?

Fortunately, by what I would call chance and what he calls fate, he found the book at the very last minute in a small store at the airport. As I said, he felt this book made a significant impact on his life, so he attributes great meaning to the way he found it and listening to him speak I am forced to agree.

At least I agree that the book has positively impacted him. He is one of the most driven and passionate people I have ever met, and his attitude is contagious. Yet still I find myself wondering if him finding the book that way was really fate, because, after all, I do not believe in fate. Do I?

So, What IS Fate?

In order to begin understanding the concept of fate, a definition is always a good first step. Turning to the trusty *Merriam-Webster*, we are handed this gem of a definition of fate: "The will or principle or determining cause by which things in general are believed to come to be as they are or events to happen as they do."

If you are cocking an eyebrow in confusion then you are not alone. I will admit that this seems like a strange way of defining a word that people generally define with "everything happens for a reason."

A better definition (in my humble opinion, at least) comes from the *New York Times* article "Does Everything Happen for a Reason?" by Konika Banerjee and Paul Bloom. They explain a belief in fate as the belief that "life events happen for a reason and that there is an underlying order to life that determines how events turn out."

So, fate is the concept that every event, especially the life-changing or crippling ones, have a purpose and a cause. They happened because they were supposed to or because some event or series of events made it possible for that specific event to occur.

In turn, that event will impact the individual's life further.

Not Necessarily Negative

One of the primary reasons that the fate philosophy always annoyed me in the past was the way it was used. Generally, when people utter the words, "Everything happens for a reason," it is after the word "but." For example, "I just lost my job, I have so many bills to pay, and now I may lose my house!" Here they take a deep, defeated breath and add, "but, everything happens for a reason."

Meanwhile, I always want to ask why on earth would you lose your job? What reason could this insane universe have for making one person lose his job? Why you? Why now?

But that is not how the philosophy works. You lose the job then you find out why. The whole basis of fate is that you will not know right away. It is a go-with-the-flow and learn-from-the-past ideal. This is both good and problematic because while it allows people to deal with their problems with as much positivity as humanly possible, it also ties fate to negative occurrences.

Even Chris Digirolamo's theodysseyonline.com article, "Does Everything Really Happen for a Reason?" asserts this notion. He writes, "People have adapted the idea of everything happening for a reason to cope with difficult situations in their lives; a way to reassure themselves by saying that everything happens for a reason."

But what about my acquaintance's story? What about positive moments or insane coincidences that have a positive outcome? Those we would be fine with attributing to fate. If we take the emotional aspect away, maybe the negative would look the same. Maybe.

A Motto for Everyone

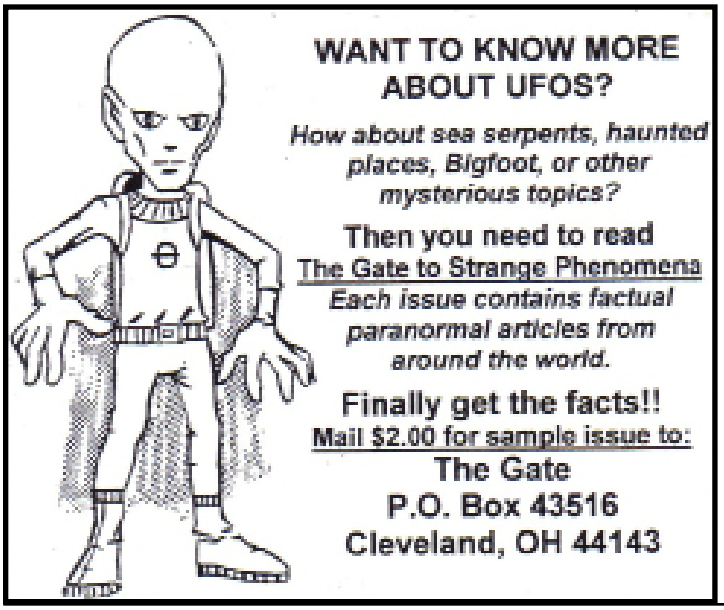
News flash: the concept of fate and the "everything happens for a reason" philosophy is not just for the highly religious. Although many people attach the philosophy to religion, the Banerjee and Bloom's *New York Times* article mentioned a study that revealed many atheists buy into the concept of fate "defined as the view that life events happen for a reason and that there is an underlying order to life that determines how events turn out."

Every action produces an effect. Therefore, nothing is really ever random. Even though we may not know why right away, something caused the positive or negative event that just made or ruined your day, week, month, year, or life.

The Concept of Fate

The concept of fate is more than just dogma. It is more than just reassurance. It is a way of looking at life as a learning opportunity and trying to get something out of every situation. It is a yin-yang concept of bad mixed with good.

And, maybe, if we give fate a fighting chance, we will see how things work together to work out in the end. ◆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6 Haunted Asylums You Can Actually Visit

Via The Lineup, www.the-line-up.com

Crumbling corridors, broken windows, the anonymous graves of former patients. Few places are as haunting as an abandoned asylum. While many of these institutions from the 19th and early 20th Centuries are now gone, some still stand. A few facilities even offer tours.

Visitors to the haunted asylums below report disembodied voices, meandering apparitions, and eerie noises echoing through the halls. Care to step inside?

1. Trans-Allegheny Lunatic Asylum (Weston, West Virginia)

Built in the mid-1800s, the Trans-Allegheny Lunatic Asylum was originally intended to house as many as 250 patients. However, during the height of its use in the 1950s, nearly 2,400 souls were packed into the building, creating extremely poor living conditions. The facility was not known to treat its patients well — those who could not be "controlled" were locked in cages.

Ultimately, the operation was shut down and the building completely vacated by the mid-1990s. In 2007, the hospital was sold by the state to private buyers, who now operate ghost tours in the allegedly haunted asylum. Visitors can take guided trips through the building or, if they feel especially daring, spend the night inside.

Prior guests report spectral sightings, strange noises, and disembodied voices, unsurprising given the gruesome history of those who lived and died within the old hospital's walls. Note: Walk-in tours are on hold until April 1, 2017, while the building undergoes restoration. For more information, visit http://trans-allegheny-lunaticasylum.com/.

The Trans-Allegheny Lunatic Asylum in West Virginia is said to be home to spectral sightings, strange noises, and disembodied voices. (Photo: Richie Diesterheft via Wikimedia)

2. Rolling Hills Asylum (East Bethany, New York)

Rolling Hills Asylum, originally called Genesee County Poor Farm, was created as a "poorhouse." The term was used throughout the 19th and early 20th Centuries to describe state-run compounds that housed orphans, the poor, petty criminals, the mentally ill, and anyone else deemed unfit for mainstream society. While such asylums were ostensibly created to protect the vulnerable, they often ended up marginalizing them further — residents were called "inmates," regardless of the reason why they lived at the poorhouse.

Able-bodied inmates were required to work the land, caring for animals and sustaining the community. Many spent the remainder of their lives inside; there are up to 1,700 documented deaths at Rolling Hills and likely many more that went unmentioned. Those who died were buried in unmarked graves on the property.

Today, visitors can spend hours at the site, participating in various tours and exploring the once-populated farm. Many claim experiencing various creepy paranormal activity, ranging from disembodied voices and doors forced shut to screams in the night and flickering shadow people. Explore if you dare! For more information, visit http://www.rollinghillsasylum.com/.

3. Century Manor Insane Asylum (Hamilton, Ontario, Canada)

Opened in 1876, Ontario's Century Manor Insane Asylum was a beautiful facility for the region's psychiatric patients. The building itself, built on a hill with a stunning view of Hamilton, was thought to calm the most troubled of minds. If the scenery didn't do the trick (which it often did not), doctors frequently turned to shock therapy and lobotomies for treatment. Other procedures included salt rubs, morphine injections, and being locked in a coffin-like crib.

Making a ghastly situation even worse was the tradition of Hamilton residents treating the asylum as entertainment. Locals often brought picnic baskets to the grounds and had a laugh at the behaviors of patients. Locals also knew to listen for the steam whistle alarm, which signaled the escape of a seriously ill individual and served as a warning to usher playing children inside. The facility became a museum in the 1980s, and is now part of the Hamilton Ghost Tour circuit. For more information, visit https://www.facebook.com/thecenturymanor/.

4. Waverly Hills Sanatorium (Louisville, Kentucky)

The commonly held belief that Waverly Hills Sanatorium served as an insane asylum is inaccurate. It was actually a tuberculosis ward and, later, a home for the elderly with declining mental conditions. That said, the facility's troubled history and its catalog of paranormal encounters make it a perfect fit for this list.

Visitors to Waverly Hills Sanatorium in Kentucky have witnessed a wide range of paranormal activity, from hearing disembodied sounds to seeing full-bodied apparitions.

Waverly Hills began in 1883 as a small, one-room schoolhouse built by Major Thomas H. Hays for the education of his daughters, as the family lived too far from existing schools. In 1908, Kentucky's Board of Tuberculosis Hospitals purchased the property to establish a sanatorium and combat the state's tuberculosis epidemic. Originally a two-story building, Waverly Hills Sanatorium soon expanded into a sprawling campus to support the ever-increasing number of patients. In fact, Waverly Hills was a self-contained city — complete with its own postal code. Patients, doctors, nurses, and staff were permanent residents of the complex.

Perhaps the creepiest feature of Waverly Hills is the tunnel that leads from the first floor of the sanatorium to the bottom of the hill. This subterranean passageway — later dubbed "the body chute" — was used to dispose of the dead out of eyesight of living patients. With this kind of eerie history, as well as the sheer numbers of patients who died slow and painful deaths on the premises (some reports suggest 8,000), it's easy to understand why urban explorers with a taste for the supernatural are attracted to Waverly Hills.

Visitors can book organized tours and ghost hunting expeditions through its winding corridors and 400-plus rooms. For more information, visit http://www.therealwaverlyhills.com/.

5. Pennhurst Asylum (Spring City, Pennsylvania)

Pennhurst State School and Hospital is another example of a self-sustaining city/asylum with a dark and troubled history. Founded in 1903, the immense campus housed society's "feeble-minded" individuals.

Upon admission, patients were "classed" as either being insane or an imbecile, epileptic, or healthy, and having a dental ranking of good, poor, or treated. For years the facility provided what was, at best, subhuman treatment of its patients and residents.

In 1983, nine employees were charged with abuse. Yet it wasn't until a 1987 abuse case that the entire operation was shut down. Reports of paranormal activity and eerie sightings soon surfaced. Now, Pennhurst is reopened as Pennhurst Asylum Haunted House and can be toured by those curious to explore it. For more information, visit http://pennhurstasylum.com/.

6. Willard Asylum for the Chronic Insane (Ovid, New York)

Opening in 1869, Willard Asylum for the Chronic Insane was once the largest asylum in the United States and was in operation until 1995. Part of the campus continues to operate as a New York State rehabilitation facility. Consequently, the unused portion of Willard was originally off-limits to the public.

However, public interest in the site's history, not to mention the desire to see what spirits still linger within, led officials to open the building once a year for tours. Similar to the other abandoned intuitions on this list, the fate of many of Willard's patients are unknown — though in 1995, some 400 patient suitcases were uncovered in the attic.

Fair warning: The announcements of these yearly tours are often hard to track down for anyone living outside the Finger Lakes region. For more information, visit https://www.facebook.com/pages/Willard-Asylum-for-the-Chronic-Insane/107728802583797.◆

EXPOSING THE TOP SECRET TREATY BETWEEN THE U.S. AND ALIENS

By Sean Casteel, spectralvision.wordpress.com

Global Communications/Inner Light Publications, a publishing house helmed by CEO Timothy Green Beckley, has recently published a new book that delves into UFOs, conspiracy theory, and governmental gamesmanship called *America's Top Secret Treaty With Alien Life Forms: Plus The Hidden History of Our Time*.

The primary text of the book is by "Commander X," the pseudonym of a former military intelligence operative who has long been dedicated to exposing the government/ET cover-up, but what follows are excerpts and quotations from the book that borrow from the introductory chapters authored by Beckley and, in the interest of full disclosure, myself.

Did Eisenhower meet with aliens at Muroc AFB in the California desert?

The Necessary Leaps of Faith

To better appreciate the material presented here, one should perhaps make the following leaps of faith: First, you have to accept the premise that we are not alone in the Universe. Then you have to agree intelligent life has arrived here and that it consists of a group or groups of ETs who are more advanced than we are and who can travel freely through time and space.

Then we must ask ourselves if we are important enough that they would endeavor to set up some sort of ongoing "relationship" with us. And why, indeed, the United States? Presumably because we are thought of as the most powerful nation on the planet?

There is a growing conviction among a certain "fringe" group of ufologists that we have gone so far as to negotiate a treaty with at least one group of aliens, possibly several. So who signed this treaty? And what exactly does it consist of? And — perhaps most important of all — has the treaty been broken because one or both sides did not keep to this agreement?

Eisenhower Establishes First Contact

Most stories about the alleged treaty between the U.S. government and a race of UFO occupants start with then-President Dwight D. Eisenhower and his rendezvous with the alien interlopers circa 1954. The story is told in varying versions and may already be familiar in one form or another to the seasoned UFO reader, but it is told again here to lay the foundation for the basic concept of this book.

One of the most thorough treatments of the Eisenhower encounter is told by Michael E. Salla, Ph.D., in an online posting called, aptly enough, "Eisenhower's 1954 Meeting With Extraterrestrials."

The chronology begins on the night of and early morning hours of February 20-21, 1954, when Eisenhower was purportedly on vacation in Palm Springs and "went missing." The next morning, at a church service in Los Angeles, reporters were told the president had required emergency dental treatment from a local dentist after

losing a tooth cap while eating fried chicken. The dentist himself was presented at an official function that evening, seemingly to solidify an apparent cover-up and keep the press in the dark.

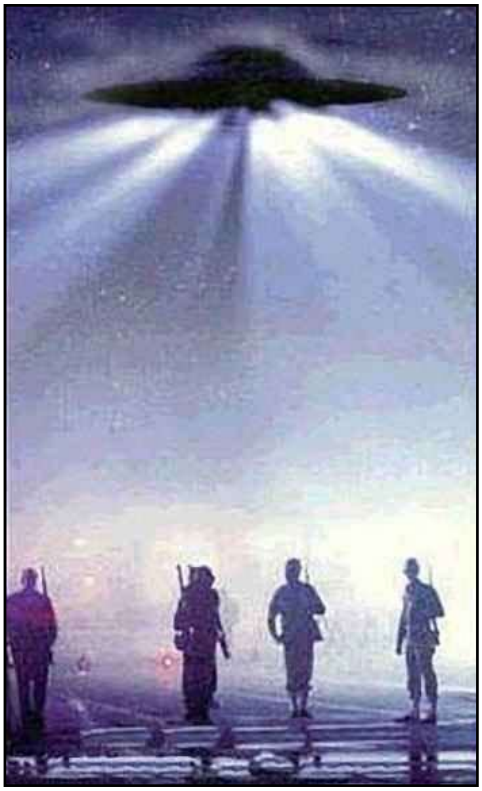
"That missing night and morning," Salla wrote, "has subsequently fueled rumors that Eisenhower was using the alleged dentist visit as a cover story for an extraordinary event."

The event is possibly "the most significant that any American president could have conducted," Salla's paper continued. "An alleged 'first-contact' meeting with extraterrestrials at Edwards Air Force Base (previously Muroc Airfield) and the beginning of a series of meetings with different extraterrestrial races that led to a 'treaty' that was eventually signed."

Salla then pointed to circumstantial evidence that the meeting truly occurred. One of the most questionable aspects of the situation has to do with Eisenhower's Palm Springs winter vacation itself, slated to run from February 17-24. The vacation was announced rather suddenly and came less than a week after Eisenhower's "quail shooting" vacation in Georgia. This was most unusual.

On the night of February 20, when Eisenhower's presence could not be accounted for, the media began to wonder if he had taken ill or even died. Eisenhower's press secretary quickly convened a news conference and put out the dentist story. During those hours, Eisenhower could easily have traveled from Palm Springs to the nearby Muroc Airfield.

When one looks at the unscheduled nature of the president's vacation, the hours he was missing, and the dentist cover story, a definite pattern emerges. Whatever was really happening behind the scenes was not something that could be shared with the public.



Gerald Light said he witnessed five separate and distinct types of alien aircraft provided by ETs that he called the "Etherians."

Gerald Light Provides an Early Public Source

Gerald Light, who was called a "gifted and highly educated writer and lecturer, skilled in both clairvoyance and the occult," sent a letter dated April 16, 1954, to Meade Layne, who at the time was the director of Borderland Sciences Research Associates. In the letter, Light claimed that he was part of a delegation of community leaders invited to the meeting with extraterrestrials at Muroc in order to test public reaction to the alien presence. Also asked to attend were Hearst papers reporter Franklin Allen, Edwin Nourse of the Brookings Institute (who had been Harry Truman's financial adviser), and Bishop MacIntyre of Los Angeles.

After undergoing six hours of "vetting," or extremely detailed background checks, the group was permitted to enter the "restricted section."

"I had the distinct feeling," Light wrote, "that the world had come to an end with fantastic realism. For I have never seen so many human beings in a state of complete collapse and confusion as they realized that their own world had indeed ended with such finality as to beggar description."

This is what the late Harvard psychiatrist Dr. John Mack called "ontological shock." Mack coined the phrase to describe the feeling one gets when first coming to realize the alien presence is undeniably real and that a total restructuring of one's former sense of reality is demanded. Light seems to be describing that shaken state of mind in his letter, which points to a consistency with what the UFO research of the ensuing decades would uncover.

"The reality of the 'other plane' aero-forms is now and forever removed from the realms of speculation," Light continued, "and made a rather painful part of the consciousness of every responsible scientific and political group."

Light said he was on the scene at Muroc for two days and witnessed five separate and distinct types of alien aircraft being studied and handled by Air Force officials with the permission and assistance of a group Light calls the "Etherians."

"I have no words to express my reactions," he wrote. "It has finally happened. It is now a matter of history."

Light mistakenly felt that Eisenhower would ignore the conflicts going on between various officials behind the scenes and present the situation to the public if the impasse continued much longer. Salla noted that no such formal announcement was made and Light's meeting was either the best-kept secret of the 20th Century or the fabrication of an elderly mystic known for out-of-body experiences.

Meanwhile, Salla said there is a plausibility to the list of those Light claimed had joined him at the meeting

→

in that they represented senior leaders of the religious, spiritual, economic, and newspaper communities. All of the invitees were of advanced age and constituted a "wise-man" group that would have reflected the conservative nature of American society at the time.

William Cooper Adds Another Layer of Credence

The late William Cooper was a highly controversial whistleblower of great fame, though his statements would often be critically scrutinized and attacked. As for his personal background, he said he served on the Naval Intelligence briefing team for the Commander of the Pacific Fleet from 1970 to 1973 and therefore had access to classified documents that he had to review in order to fulfill his briefing duties.

The late whistleblower William Cooper would broadcast to the world every day via shortwave radio.

According to Salas, Cooper described the background and nature of the "First Contact" thusly:

"In 1953, astronomers discovered large objects in space which were moving toward the Earth. It was first believed that they were asteroids. Later evidence proved that the objects could only be spaceships. When the objects reached the Earth, they took up a very high orbit around the Equator. There were several huge ships, and their actual intent was unknown."

Operatives of Project Sigma, which worked to intercept radio signals, and a new project, Plato, tasked with establishing diplomatic relations with this race of space aliens, worked together to transmit radio communications to the ships using the binary computer language. The U.S. was thus able to arrange a landing that resulted in face-to-face contact with alien beings from another planet. In the meantime, a race of human-looking aliens also contacted the U.S. government.

"This alien group warned us against the aliens that were orbiting the Equator and offered to help us with our spiritual development," Cooper wrote. "They demanded that we dismantle our nuclear weapons as the major condition. They refused to exchange technology, citing that we were spiritually unable to handle the technology which we then possessed. They believed that we would use any new technology to destroy each other."

This race stated that:

- We were on a path of self-destruction, and we must stop killing each other.
- We must stop polluting the Earth.
- We must stop raping the Earth's natural resources.
- We must learn to live in harmony.

Cooper wrote that these terms were met with extreme suspicion, especially the major condition of nuclear disarmament. It was believed that meeting that condition would leave us helpless in the face of an obvious alien threat. We also had no precedent in history to help in making the decision. In any case, it was decided that nuclear disarmament was not in the best interest of the United States. The aliens' overtures were rejected.

"The significant point about Cooper's version," Salla wrote, "is that the humanoid extraterrestrial race was not willing to enter into technology exchanges that might help weapons development and was instead focused on spiritual development. Significantly, the overtures of these extraterrestrials were turned down."

In retrospect, it seems we said "no" to the good guys, doesn't it?

The 1954 Agreement With the Aliens

A host of other whistleblowers, to include former CIA pilot John Lear and former Master Sergeant Robert Dean (who, like Cooper, had access to top-secret documents) offer accounts of the Muroc meeting that agree on some points and disagree on others.

In any case, Eisenhower's February 1954 meeting was not successful. After the failure of that first meeting, the president subsequently met later that year with a race of large-nosed gray aliens who had been orbiting the Earth before landing at Holloman Air Force Base in New Mexico.

Eisenhower and/or members of his administration reached a basic agreement with this second alien race. The ETs identified themselves as originating from a plan-

et in orbit around a red star in the Constellation of Orion that we call Betelgeuse. They stated that their planet was dying and that at some unknown future time they would no longer be able to survive there.

The treaty reached with this gray race stated that the aliens would not interfere in our affairs and we would not interfere in theirs. We would keep their presence on Earth a secret. They would furnish us with advanced technology and would help us in our technological development. They would not make a treaty with any other Earth nation.

They could abduct humans on a limited and periodic basis for the purposes of medical examination and the monitoring of our development, with the stipulation that the humans would not be harmed, would be returned to their point of abduction, and would have no memory of the event. The alien nation agreed to furnish a list of all human contacts and abductees on a regularly scheduled basis.

Further testimony comes from yet another whistleblower, Phil Schneider, a former geological engineer who was employed by corporations contracted to build underground bases. Schneider worked extensively on black projects involving extraterrestrials. He summarized what he knew about the earthling/alien compact as follows:

"Back in 1954, under the Eisenhower administration, the federal government decided to circumvent the Constitution of the United States and form a treaty with alien entities. It was called the 1954 Greada Treaty, which basically made the agreement that the aliens involved could take a few cows and test their implanting techniques on a few human beings but that they had to give details about the people involved."

This same pattern of testimony is also repeated by Don Phillips, who served in the Air Force on various clandestine aviation projects. He claimed to have seen documents detailing the facts of Eisenhower's meeting with the aliens and the fact that some kind of treaty was later signed.

Meanwhile, the late Colonel Philip Corso, a highly decorated officer who had served on Eisenhower's National Security Council and decades later authored the highly controversial book, *The Day After Roswell*, characterized what had happened as a kind of "negotiated surrender" to the aliens. Corso wrote in his memoirs: "They dictated the terms because they knew what we most feared was disclosure."

The Aliens Prove Untrustworthy

The whistleblowers also talked about the immediate aftermath of the treaty.

"By 1955," Cooper wrote, "it became obvious that the aliens had deceived Eisenhower and had broken the treaty. It was suspected that the aliens were not submitting a complete list of human contacts and abductees, and it was further suspected that not all abductees had been returned."

Did the aliens engage us early on, insisting we sign a treaty with them? If so, have they led us down the garden path?

Lear said similarly, "We got something less than the technology we bargained for and found the abductions exceeded by a million-fold what we had naively agreed to."

In October 1955, General Douglas MacArthur delivered a famous warning that suggested some extraterrestrial presence existed that threatened human sovereignty.

"You now face a new world," MacArthur said, "a world of change. We speak in strange terms, of harnessing the cosmic energy, of ultimate conflict between a united human race and the sinister forces of some other planetary galaxy. The nations of the world will have to unite, for the next war will be an interplanetary war. The nations of the Earth must someday make a common front against attack by people from other planets."

MacArthur may well have been alluding to the same extraterrestrials who allegedly made an agreement with Eisenhower. It is a public acknowledgment, similar to Ronald Reagan's "little green man" speech before the United Nations in 1983, of an alien presence against whom the entire planet must one day do battle. If the aliens did in fact renege on major parts of the alleged treaty, MacArthur was perhaps acknowledging that we would eventually be in a state of all-out war with them as a consequence.

"The uncertainty over the motivations and behavior of the gray extraterrestrials," Salla wrote, "appears to have played a large role in the government decision not to disclose the extraterrestrial presence and the treaty Eisenhower had signed with them."

→

If Eisenhower did have a prearranged, clandestine meeting with aliens, what was the result of their conversation? What were the discussions all about?

Salla quoted from an "alleged official document" leaked to UFO researchers that makes it a crime under the Espionage Act to disclose classified information concerning extraterrestrials, punishable by up to 10 years in prison and a $10,000 fine, which is sufficient to keep most former servicemen from coming forward with what they know.

The most common strategies for dealing with former servicemen, corporate employees, or witnesses brave or "foolish" enough to reveal classified information is to intimidate, silence, eliminate, or discredit these individuals. This is accomplished by removing all public records of the whistleblowers that would establish their identity as credible sources. Such people could also be frightened into simply retracting what they said or having their testimony distorted to the point where it ceases to have the meaning the witness intended.

Eisenhower as the "Contactee" President

Returning to the subject of Eisenhower and the many alien contact stories that are told about him, we next examine the writings of Canadian researcher Grant Cameron. Cameron has specialized in the study of American presidents and their interactions with the extraterrestrial presence for many years. He has cultivated a reputation for reliability and trustworthiness that has few equals in the field of ufology.

According to Cameron, Eisenhower's attaining the rank of five-star general made him accustomed to high-level secrets. This was clearly evident in 1952, when Harry Truman gave the newly elected Eisenhower the "comprehensive National Intelligence Digest prepared by the CIA," which contained "the most important national intelligence on a worldwide basis." Eisenhower would write in his memoirs a decade later that the intelligence digest added little to his knowledge, since he had already been privy to most of what it contained.

"What may go down as the most contentious part of the Eisenhower story," Cameron wrote, "is that Eisenhower had many rumored encounters with UFOs and aliens. Eisenhower could thus be labeled the 'contactee president.'"

Eisenhower was said to be onboard a nuclear aircraft carrier in 1952 during a NATO exercise in which a large blue/white light appeared right off the starboard bow. It descended to within a hundred feet above the water and hovered as the ship moved past it before rising straight up into the air and departing. Eisenhower told the crewmen to "forget about it for now."

The ship in question was the U.S.S. Roosevelt. Cameron pointed out that just as Roswell was the first Air Force base to handle nuclear weapons, the U.S.S. Roosevelt was the first aircraft carrier to be armed with nuclear weapons. There has been a generally acknowledged alien "interest" in Earth's nukes from the beginning of the modern-day UFO phenomenon, and one is reminded that the aliens who initially approached Eisenhower made dismantling our nuclear arsenal a fundamental condition of any agreement that might be reached.

Cameron also commented on the 1954 Muroc story. Ever the careful scholar, Cameron related how the official records of the president's trip to Palm Springs are held at the Eisenhower library in Abilene, Kansas, and have been reviewed by various researchers. An archivist at the library said they receive so many requests on the subject that they have a person who specializes in dealing with those particular documents.

"All researchers agreed on the basic story," Cameron wrote, "that being on the evening of February 20, 1954, during a week-long trip to Palm Springs, Eisenhower disappeared from where he was staying at the Smoke Tree Ranch compound, owned by his business friend, Paul Helms.

The records do not show how this disappearance became apparent to the press corps, but they did figure out the president was gone. In fact, the Associated Press had already gone on the wire with the story that the president had suffered a heart attack and was dead. Minutes later, they withdrew the story."

Press Secretary James Haggerty hurried to meet with and calm down the press with the aforementioned dentist visit story. The members of the media accepted what they were told, and the story disappeared completely when Eisenhower was seen at church the next morning.

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What Eisenhower Said Publicly

In his introduction to *America's Top Secret Treaty With Alien Life Forms*, Beckley grappled with statements Eisenhower made to the American public shortly before turning over the reins of government to John F. Kennedy — the well-known remarks on the military/industrial complex. Eisenhower said:

> *In the councils of government, we must guard against the acquisition of unwarranted influence, whether sought or unsought, by the military/industrial complex. The potential for the disastrous rise of misplaced power exists and will persist. We must never let the weight of this combination endanger our liberties or democratic processes. We should take nothing for granted. Only an alert and knowledgeable citizenry can compel the proper meshing of the huge industrial and military machinery of defense with our peaceful methods and goals, so that security and liberty may prosper together.*
>
> *To all the peoples of the world, I once more give expression to America's prayerful and continuing aspiration: We pray that peoples of all faiths, all races, all nations, may have their great human needs satisfied; that those now denied opportunity will come to enjoy it to the full; that all who yearn for freedom may experience its spiritual blessings; that those who have freedom will understand, also, its heavy responsibilities; that all who are insensitive to the needs of others will learn charity; that the scourges of poverty, disease and ignorance will be made to disappear from the Earth, and that, in the goodness of time, all peoples will come to live together in a peace guaranteed by the binding force of mutual respect and love."*

The surprising candor of Eisenhower's exit speech has long placed it among the most important presidential utterances in American history. But what motivated him to speak his dire warnings about a governmental machinery he had himself been a leader of for decades? According to Beckley:

> *Certainly, these remarks serve to indicate that something during his two terms of office had had a tremendous effect upon a president who was a staunch conservative and a former general not known for his sensitivity and enlightenment. What had impacted his conscience so much that he would publicly 'soften' his views on a variety of topics? Could it have been due to his rumored meeting with a group of Ultra-Terrestrials? And the subsequent fact that these assemblages were never spoken about in public?*
>
> *If Eisenhower did have a prearranged, clandestine meeting with aliens, what was the result of their conversation? What were the discussions all about? What future policies might they have outlined? And, at the end of the meeting(s), did we simply shake hands and say, 'see you,' as we walked away?*
>
> *There are some, including Commander X, the retired military intelligence operative who supplied the majority of these pages, who say that these conferences with Eisenhower led up to an actual agreement — an interplanetary treaty — being 'signed and sealed' by both sides.*

"Is Commander X trustworthy? I would have to say he's at least as trustworthy as the next guy ..."

On a personal note, the above-mentioned Commander X is a mystery even to me. I have worked for Beckley (who has published numerous books by Commander X) for more than 20 years, and even I do not know who the secretive author truly is. I've always conjured an image of an aging, gray-haired, bearded figure bent over a typewriter while hiding in some basement hovel in a major U.S. city and staying one step ahead of his former intelligence community "handlers" as he churns out book after book on the shadowy conspiracy that allegedly threatens us all.

In his section of *America's Top Secret Treaty With Alien Life Forms*, Commander X provides an insider's perspective on the nature of official government dealings and agreements with the aliens.

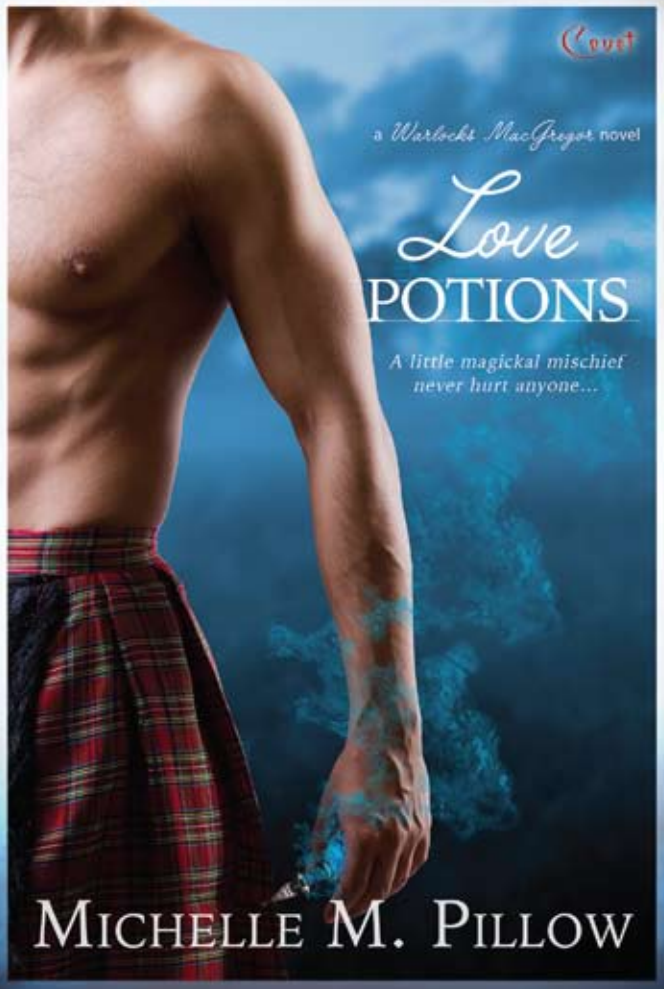
Is Commander X trustworthy? I would have to say he's at least as trustworthy as the next guy in this often confusing swirl of disinformation and genuinely leaked "revelations."

But whatever the details of this insidious treaty between the U.S. and the extraterrestrials, no matter what was agreed to, what egregious concessions were made, no matter who profited or was enriched, it is we who will pay the final price of that ill-conceived diplomatic outreach to a dark alien race from the stars.

Suggested Reading:

- *America's Top Secret Treaty With Alien Life Forms: Plus the Hidden History of Our Time*
- *The UFO Repeaters! Seeing Is Believing: The Camera Doesn't Lie!*
- *The Secret Lost Diary of Admiral Byrd and the Phantom of the Poles* ◆

Erik MacGregor, from a clan of ancient Scottish warlocks, isn't looking for love…until he moves in next door to Lydia Barratt.



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Unluckiest Day of the Year: The Legend of Friday the 13th

BY STEPHANIE ALMAZAN VIA WWW.THE-LINE-UP.COM

It's that time of the year again, and we're not talking about the holidays. Friday the 13th is approaching (January 13, 2017), arguably the most feared date on the calendar. There's even a clinical term for the anxiety triggered by the ominous day: "Friggatriskaidekaphobia."

Superstitious individuals will no doubt be wary of air travel, driving, or playing the stock market on Friday the 13th, while others will simply stay home to avoid the supposed sinister forces at work. But where does the fear of Friday the 13th originate?

Superstitious souls avoid air travel, driving, and playing the stock market every Friday the 13th. But just where does their fear originate?

The Origins of Friday the 13th

Many researchers trace the superstition to the story of Jesus and the Last Supper. Thirteen guests joined Jesus at the table on Maundy Thursday, with Judas taking the final spot. Jesus was arrested and sent to be crucified the following day.

In cultures across the globe, 12 signifies completeness while 13 implies trouble. There are 12 zodiac signs, two sets of 12 hours in a day, and 12 months in a year. In myths and religion, the number of gods on Olympus, the number of animals in the Chinese horoscope, the number of tribes of Israel, and the number of apostles of Jesus all equal 12.

Adding just one more digit seems to throw everything off balance — and invite bad luck. Loki, the mischievous god of Viking mythology, is believed to be the 13th god in the Norse pantheon.

Not everyone accepts the unlucky reputation of the number. In 1881, a group of 13 members formed the Thirteen Club. They tempted fate by walking under ladders, spilling salt, breaking mirrors, and dining in groups of 13 on the 13th day. Five U.S. presidents joined in on the fun: Chester Arthur, Grover Cleveland, Benjamin Harrison, William McKinley, and Theodore Roosevelt.

As for the cursed combination of Friday the 13th, many trace it back to October 13, 1307. On this day, King Phillip IV of France imprisoned — and later executed — members of the Knights Templar under accusations of idolatry. The 2003 novel *The Da Vinci Code*, by Dan Brown, brought worldwide attention to the legendary connection.

Other examples includes the 1907 book *Friday the Thirteenth* by Thomas Lawson. The novel tells of a stockbroker who plays on people's fears of the day to bring down Wall Street. When the stock market did crash on Friday, October 13, 1989, it was quickly labeled a Friday

the 13th mini-crash. This unlucky day was partially credited with triggering the recession of the early 1990s.

Friday the 13th in Today's Culture

Today, references to Friday the 13th and unlucky 13 abound. Born on Friday the 13th, Jason Voorhees of the slasher flick series *Friday the 13th* struck fear in the hearts of many.

Numerous reports of the tragic death of beloved Princess Diana include mention of her car striking the 13th pillar in the Pont D' Alma tunnel.

The pervading fear can be seen in the absence of a 13th floor in most office buildings and hotels, as well as the 13th row in most airlines, including AirFrance, Emirates, and United.

Meanwhile, popular myths surrounding the date run from morbid to comical. According to this list of superstitions from *International Business Times*, if a funeral procession passes you by on Friday the 13th, you'll be the next to die. Meanwhile, if you stop by the barber on the ominous date, someone in your family will pay for it with death.

Yet the big question remains: Is the day indeed cursed? While some studies have found a correlation between Friday the 13th and ill-fated activity, many others suggest the day is slightly safer. One such study compared motor vehicle accidents on a Friday the 13th with other Fridays in the month and found a slight downtick in crashes — perhaps due to superstitious motorists driving a little safer.

As for the stock market? Historically, it hasn't been negatively affected by the day.

So fear not the black cat that crosses your path or the ladder looming over your head today. Statistically, you can take it all with a grain of salt — but on second thought, try not to spill the shaker.◆

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Love Letters Destroyed
Love Letters Destroyed is Winter Balefire's first book of poetry now available at Amazon, Lulu, Barnes & Noble and all fine retailers that sell great books. Pick it up in eBook and signed paperback editions today!
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How to Make *Shift* Happen

By Karen Frazier, Paranormal Underground Radio: In The Dark

See what I did there with that title? I do enjoy a good pun. But, seriously, this may be my shortest and simplest metaphysics article ever for *Paranormal Underground* magazine.

People ask me all the time, "I want to make a change; how do I do it metaphysically?"

What they are asking me about is how to make things happen — such as a shift in perspective, a change in vibration, remembering dreams, receiving a message from guides, conversing with loved ones who have passed, discovering your path, learning the lessons of karma, or even just manifesting something that is really, really important to you.

It seems like each might have their own super complicated process, right?

I have good news. There's a single, simple answer for all of them — and the process is exactly the same. Get your pen and paper ready so you can take notes, and the next time you find yourself looking for an answer — or for change — you can follow these steps.

Step 1: Intend it, and tell the Universe that's your intention.

Step 2: Nope — that's it. Intend it.

Intention is the start of every process. It's how you let the Universe know you're ready for — well, whatever it is you're ready for. It's how you ask the Universe for a sign. It's how you make sense of things. It's how you discover your lessons.

It's how you slip into your contract — that is, what it is you came here to do.

You intend it and state that intention aloud to the Universe (you can whisper it in the shower if you don't want anyone to hear you).

Then, step back and allow the process to happen.

Eliminate expectations about how your intention will manifest — just trust it will because you have intended it to be so.

It's a powerful secret for leading a powerful life, but I have one admonition: Don't state your intention unless you are absolutely certain it is what you desire and you are willing to accept the outcome of your intentions in any way it comes to you.

When you state your intention, be ready because it will come to you exactly as it should, and it may not look a thing like you think it will. It may not come instantaneously; there may be what you perceive as a lapse of time between asking and receiving, but unless you cancel out your intention with opposite intentions, trust that it's on its way.

State it, and the Universe will send it. That's how you make shift happen. ◆

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7 Motivational Stones to Keep You Moving

By Silvermoon Medicyn and Vicki Ratliff

What is it that gets people to do things? Why do students go to school, adults go to work, athletes compete, or anything else? The invisible force of motivation.

Nothing gets done in life without some motivating force to compel you into action. Motivation can be anything and come from anywhere, including internal drives and desires or external influences (such as money for good grades or trophies).

Metaphysically speaking, motivational factors are tied to the solar plexus chakra. A strong solar plexus is related to strong personal willpower and internal motivation to do things. The Sanskrit term for the solar plexus is Manipura. Manipura is associated with gems (mani = jewel or gem, pura = place or city). Finding your personal motivating forces is important. If your solar plexus chakra is weak, you may need to seek external sources of motivation to help build power.

Honey calcite helps improve intellect and memory, while Carnelian helps boost self-trust, vitality, and motivation.

Using Stones as a Source for Motivation

The definition of Manipura indicates that stones might be a great external source of motivation. They can be carried in a pocket, added to a medicine bag, or placed next to the bed or desk. A look at various stones associated with motivation will help with deciding which stone(s) would be best for your situation.

Carnelian helps with the root and sacral chakras. It's a beautiful stone that can be pale orange, reddish-brown, or almost black in color. Carnelian helps boost self-trust, vitality, and motivation. Carrying a piece of carnelian may help stimulate you to take action toward achieving your goals.

Apatite is linked with manifestation of goals and dreams. It can help with balance and flexibility, as well as help increase self-expression and instill motivation while reducing apathy. Blue apatite works with the throat chakra to aid with public speaking, group communication, and spiritual guidance. Yellow apatite works with the solar plexus chakra to reduce stagnant energy, lethargy, and lack of concentration.

Citrine interacts with the solar plexus chakra to bring good luck, fortune, and happiness. It is often referred to as the "success stone," citrine can help decrease tendencies toward self-destructive behaviors and fear of judgement, therefore increasing self-confidence and willpower. Negative energies are removed by citrine, which increases energetic stability of the environment around it.

Rubies influence the root and heart chakras. A ruby will balance the heart, establish self-confidence, increase motivation, and help with establishing realistic and achievable goals. This stone increases passion and your zest for living by promoting good dreams and reducing lethargy.

A red tiger eye influences the root chakra and helps decrease lethargy while increasing motivation. Tiger's eye in general is known for protection and good luck. This stone can help with focus and mental clarity, which helps

Stones like citrine, red jasper, and red tiger eye help with motivational issues. They can also help promote willpower.

with objective problem solving. Tiger eyes also help increase self-confidence, a sense of purpose, and willpower.

Calcite will amplify your energy, learning ability, and inner peace. It can help increase creativity, prosperity, and intuition. Calcites are calming stones that help reduce stress and negative energies. Blue calcite works on the throat chakra and is good for calming, enhancing learning, amplifying energy, and improving communication. Green calcite is linked to the heart chakra; it creates stability and is great for manifestation in all areas. Honey calcite (sacral and solar plexus chakras) helps improve intellect and memory. It amplifies energy in a gentle manner and helps deal with change. Orange calcite is associated with the sacral chakra and helps enhance intuition and balance emotions. Red calcite reduces fear, attracts love, enhances problem-solving abilities, and stabilizes inner strength and willpower.

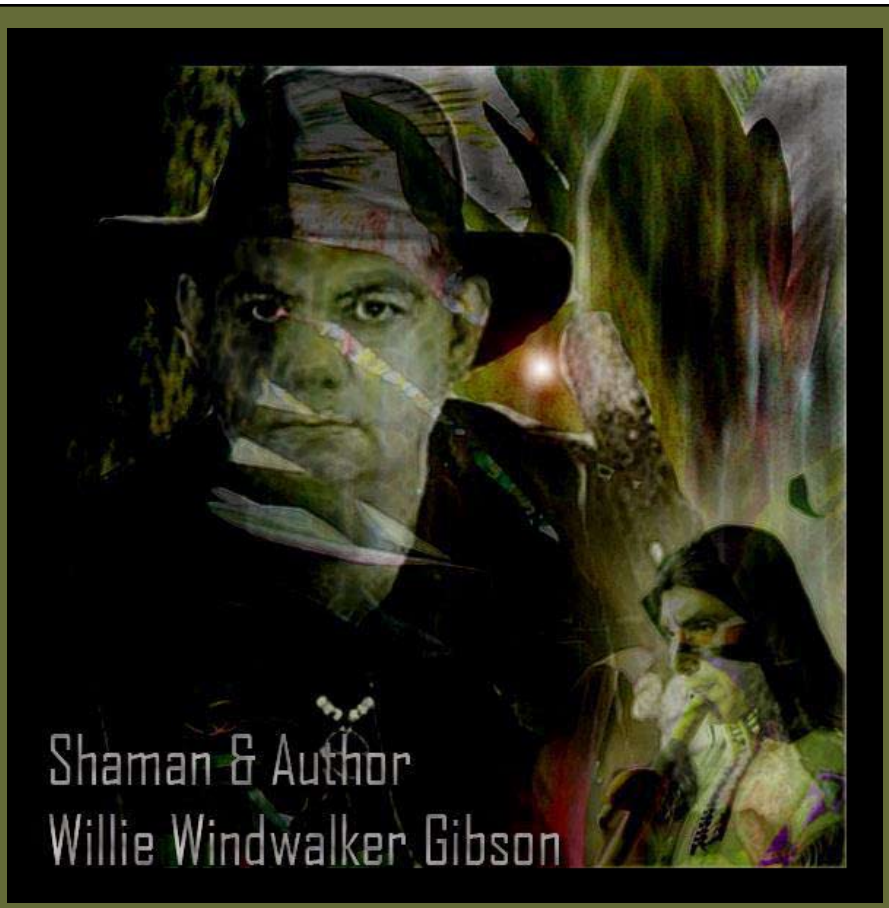
Unakite is a heart chakra stone that balances emotions, improves grounding, and helps reduce things inhibiting growth.

Red jasper is great to rub as a worry stone. Red jasper can also help recognize problems and provide insight on how to deal with difficult problems or situations. It is emotionally calming, grounding, and gently stimulating.

Accessing the Mental Push to Keep Moving

The invisible force of motivation can be completely elusive or difficult to maintain at times. The stones listed above are a small sampling of things that can be used as an external aid for motivation.

They will not provide the motivation for you, but one or more of these stones can be used to provide the mental push needed to help you get (or keep) things going. ◆



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CHRISTINA *THE VAMPIRE*

By Willie Windwalker Gibson, www.shamanwindwalker.com

People come to me for many things. Being a shaman it takes me down many paths in the paranormal and supernatural worlds. I am challenged at time with tasks that really put my training as a shaman strongly into play. I council people as well in many spiritual subjects, and I also help people escape cults. This story is about such a time I helped a young woman escape the grasp of a vampire cult.

It was late-May 2006. I got a call from a woman who told me her name was Christina. She sounded very young and very scared. I asked her how old she was. She told me she was 19. I asked the young woman how I could help her.

She told me she was in a situation that she wanted help in getting out of but was afraid and not sure how to get out of the situation.

I asked Christina what the problem was. It was then that she told me a fantastic story.

* * * * *

Christina said she was a member of a cult of people who drank blood. She told me that the members were sworn to remain quiet about the group.

Christina said that once you were a member, you were a member for life, and death was the only way out of the group.

Christina told me that she was pushed to being a member of the group because her parents were members. She was groomed into the group. Christina asked me if I could meet with her and she would tell me more in person. I told her that I would meet with her.

She told me to meet her at a specific park. I knew the park. It was a popular place in Louisville, and I went there often as a teenager myself. We agreed to meet the following afternoon about 1 p.m.

* * * * *

The next day I drove to the park. I got there a few minutes early and just drove through the park. I wanted to make sure it was not a setup.

The park was quiet, and there were a few people walking down to the riverside to watch the boats. I parked my car in a spot where I could be seen, and I got out. I stood in front of my car for about 10 minutes. Then I saw a blue Mustang drive up and park next to me. A young woman got out dressed in a black T-shirt and jeans.

"Hey, Windwalker," she said.

"Christina?" I asked.

She shook her head yes. She gave me a hug, and I could sense this young lady was not evil ... only scared.

Christina asked if we could get in my car to talk, and so we did. Then, Christina started telling me her story.

She told me her parents were members of this society that did bloodletting. She told me that the members would meet on the weekends, cut each other, and drink each other's blood. This was suppose to make them stay young and be more prosperous in life. She said basically they were modern-day vampires.

Theses vampires were not like the ones you see in the movies, like Christopher Lee. Theses vampires were people of stature, like lawyers, doctors, and teachers.

Christina went on to tell me she was from a great home, and her parents were awesome, but she hated the weekend bloodletting. Christina said she was taken at the age of 12 to one of these meetings and forced to suck a woman's cut wrist.

Christina said that it was awful at first, but after a few more times she got use to it and liked the blood. I asked Christina of the dangers of tainted blood from AIDS and Hep C. She said that each member got tested every few months.

There were doctors that were members who took care of that. I asked Christina how much blood was consumed at a meeting. She said not much, maybe a mouthful.

I asked Christina why she wanted out. She told me she wanted freedom — that being monitored all the time was getting to her. She said she was watched closely and even had her personal life manipulated for her — even who she dated had to be a blood cult member.

Christina told me she had listened to a radio show I was on and had read my book *The Shaman Windwalker*. She had noticed I lived in Louisville, so she called me for help.

I asked Christina what her job was. She said she worked at a department store and took college courses online. Christina said she would give it all up to get out of the vampire cult.

I told Christina that she was a prisoner only in her own mind. I told her she has the power to leave the cult and be her own person at any time. The cult was a mind control scam and that she was just there as a source for the blood, not for who she really was.

I asked Christina if she still craved blood? She told me at times she did crave blood but that she could stop.

I told Christina to tell the group she was leaving — that she had told someone about the group. That if she was not allowed to leave safely, the group would be exposed by the person she told.

I told Christina do be firm, and I told her to tell the group she would check in with her friend (me) every week

to make sure she was OK. If she didn't call in as planned, the group would be uncovered and people's names brought into the light (no pun intended).

I told Christina to make sure my name was kept quiet from the others. I did not want vampires harassing me. Christina told me she would not ever reveal my name.

Christina got out of my car and drove away.

* * * * *

About two weeks passed and the phone rang at my house. It was Christina. She explained to me that she had told the vampire cult she was leaving the group. She told them everything that I told her to tell them. Christina was allowed out of the group, but not without a few threats.

I told her that was to be expected. Christina said the cult moved the meeting place to a new, secret location and cut off all communication with her. She said she was happy and that she was not drinking blood anymore.

Christina thanked me, and I asked her to keep in touch.

That was 10 years ago. I never heard from Christina again. I guess that's a good thing.◆

These Skeptics May Change Your View of the Paranormal

By Krystle Vermes, getspooked.net

Most readers of this magazine are likely believers in the paranormal, but people tend to vary in their level of belief. Perhaps you've seen a ghost, but you aren't sure if alien life exists. Maybe you know Bigfoot lives in your backwoods, but you can't envision the Loch Ness Monster.

Then, of course, there are those who don't believe in anything paranormal. However, this doesn't mean they steer clear of all things otherworldly — they may even be reading this magazine. The concept of healthy skepticism can apply to a wide range of principles, including the paranormal.

It simply means that an individual is willing to question the foundation of a particular theory, but not necessarily in a harsh or negative way. A healthy skeptic often takes an "innocent until proven guilty" approach to newfound concepts, some of which fall into the paranormal category.

Can You Blame it on the Brain?

"I am a neuroscientist, and I am a skeptic because I know from my research how the brain deceives our perception," said Nicole Prause, Ph.D.

As Prause explained, there are several medical and scientific explanations that may be able to put paranormal theories to rest.

"For example, patterns of brain activity can be stimulated to give the perception that you are being followed when you actually are not," Prause stated. "This is believed to be a primary brain abnormality in those with paranoid schizophrenia and is thought to arise from the brain not properly processing where your own body actually is in space. There are many instances where paranormal feelings have strong candidate explanations in known brain events."

For years, research has been conducted to determine how the body in its entirety experiences "paranormal" activity. For example, changes in geomagnetic fields have been blamed for feelings of anxiousness and fear in humans.

Neuroscientist Michael Persinger researched this theory extensively when he looked into how geomagnetic activity correlates with paranormal activity. He concluded that geomagnetic activity was stronger on

days when people reported apparitions of the recently deceased.

Does this mean that the Earth's natural occurrences can explain all paranormal activity? The answer may vary depending on who you ask.

The Choice to Remain a Skeptic

"The reason I am a skeptic is because I actually want to solve my problems and not just pretend to solve them," explained Jennifer Hancock, a critical thinking teacher. "If you can't prove that something even occurs — let alone works — I'm not going to waste my time on it."

As Hancock shows, choosing to dismiss the paranormal can be as easy as valuing something else (in this case it's time) over supernatural theories.

"The only people who don't want scientific validation of their claims are people making claims that have no basis in reality," she continued. "If you have evidence for it, it isn't paranormal."

Hancock went on to explain that if something is supernatural, it can likely be explained through natural means, effectively eliminating the "super" behind it. If we adopt her theory (as some do), we ultimately begin to question the reputation of the paranormal.

Is it all really spooky and terrifying? Or is it just another science that Hollywood has stamped "Horror" onto for money? In other words, is the definition of "paranormal" ever-changing according to what we make up in our minds?

Whether you agree with Hancock, Prause, or a different healthy skeptic in your life, we need these individuals in our lives to maintain balance. No one wants to fall too far down the rabbit hole, and science remains a reliable tether.◆

AuthorKarenFrazier.com

Visit the website of Karen Frazier

- Paranormal and metaphysical author
- Intuitive energy healer
- Psychic medium
- Reiki master/teacher
- Co-host of *Paranormal Underground Radio In the Dark*
- Columnist for *Paranormal Underground Magazine*

SUMMONED BY THE INTERNET

By Winter M. Balefire, winterbalefire.com

Today we do everything online — pay bills, make appointments, and get answers and opinions on almost anything. So, it is no surprise that there are now alleged Websites and YouTube videos that can haunt or even curse you just by witnessing them.

So, is it really possible for a spirit or dark energy to have an effect via the web? Here are a few examples.

Repleh Snatas

This Website has been around for several years. The story goes, Repleh Snatas was a young girl who was abused and tragically died. If you go to the Website, you can summon her and she will invite you to come back at midnight. When you return, she will ask you if you want to play.

Then, clicking through a series of puzzles, creepy pictures, and sound effects will eventually lead you to a screen where you can enter a name. Choose carefully ... the name you enter must be someone you wish to harm. Repleh will carry out your wish, but in return she will haunt your dreams for the rest of your life. Repleh Snatas is Satans Helper backwards.

WPKEPKW

This bizarre title is known as "the Cursed YouTube video." The original upload date is not known, because it supposedly keeps disappearing and the original video is said to be difficult to find. This is a short video, less than 30 seconds, and is simply a blurred image of what appears to be a human face. The features are indistinguishable, and there is a dull noise in the background.

There are reports the video causes fear and paranoia, but that could be just a natural reaction the human brain has to an unrecognizable image. The interesting and creepy part comes from another YouTuber who recorded the "curse" of this video.

They recorded themselves just browsing another Web page when suddenly that blurred face would pop up on their screen out of nowhere. There are also reports that along with this face, a date will pop up — this is said to be the date of your death.

But, this was reportedly debunked by another user who suggested the original curse proof of the intruding face was created with simple editing software. Either way, the video is very unsettling. The image does stay with you once seen.

Suicide Mouse.avi

This video was uploaded in 2012 but is believed to feature animation from the 1930s. You begin by watching what appears to be an old Mickey Mouse cartoon. The mouse is walking along with buildings passing in the

background on a continual loop. Mickey seems sad and the music in the background is a low, depressing tune.

Soon the scene begins to slightly change; buildings begin to warp, and things become distorted. The music turns to a steady white noise, and then the sound of a woman screaming a terrifying tortuous scream is heard. The scene cuts out, and a Russian text appears on the screen that reads: "The sights of Hell bring its viewer back in."

This video is believed to induce depression and suicidal thoughts. A rumor circulated around the clip stating someone did actually kill themselves after viewing it; the last thing the victim reportedly said was, "Real suffering is not known."

Mereana Mordegard Glesgorv

This video arrived in 2008 and has been taken down and re-uploaded many times. If you decide to watch this clip, you will first see everything in a red tint and a man staring at the camera. Soon, the man's facial expression changes into a sinister smile and a low evil laugh can be heard in the background followed by bells.

His eyes begin to dance and roll around, all the while everything is still drenched in red and he is still smiling. The reason this strange video gained a reputation is quite disturbing. Allegedly, upon its original upload, more than 100 people attempted to gouge their own eyes out after viewing. YouTube removed the video after these reports, but it continues to be available and viewed.

Many report not being able to complete the video due to the intense feeling of fear and general unease.

Are These Videos Real?

I have viewed these videos, but not in their entirety. There are many theories and ways to debunk these clips, but even if their sole purpose is to make you feel scared, paranoid, or just overall uncomfortable, they definitely succeeded.

Can a video or Website curse you? The power of the human mind is incredible, especially combined with the power of suggestion. ◆

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Welcome to Our Home

By Don Allison

The following story is adapted from "I Met a Ghost at Gettysburg: A Journalist's Journey Into the Paranormal" by Don Allison, Faded Banner Publications. Copyright 2015. Used by permission.

I didn't think of it at the time, but looking back I realize many would have considered our dream house to be the stuff of nightmares. This old, vacant, rundown home, distant from any neighbors, fairly screamed haunted house in the context of traditional ghost stories.

But ghosts in our house? Come on.

My first real project after acquiring the house was to make a temporary repair to the front porch, in front of the main entrance. The porch was so rotted that two wooden industrial skids had been laid across it to support the weight of those entering or leaving.

I constructed a new, small frame in front of the doors, and installed 2- by 10-inch floorboards. This was a safe, solid porch, and I have to say I felt pretty proud of my efforts.

It was getting dark by the time I finished, and I grabbed the ornate antique brass doorknob to close the door and lock up. As I began to gently pull it closed, however, the door flew backwards, yanking the knob from my hand. I was startled, and for a moment I simply stood there and stared at the door, trying to make sense of what just had happened.

I looked carefully above, below, behind, and around the door, and closely inspected the hinges, trying to determine if there were any obstructions. I found nothing.

On my second try, the door closed easily and smoothly, so I locked it and headed home.

* * * * *

The next day, as I approached the front door, I spotted a pine cone sitting upright, smack in the middle of my new temporary porch. How odd, I thought — the placement of that pine cone was so perfect that it seemed there had to be some intelligence behind it.

Pictured above is Don and Diane Allison's historic home shortly after they purchased it. Little did they know at the time, but unexplainable events were about to send their paranormal belief system into question.

At the time, there was a pine tree in the front yard, but it was far enough away that a falling pine cone was not likely to land on the porch, let alone balance itself in an upright position.

Was a person playing a prank on us? Had a raccoon somehow left the pine cone in that position on the porch? As unusual as it seemed, I believed there had to be a natural explanation — both for this pine cone and the door incident the evening before.

I very much wanted there to be a plausible, normal explanation, but I must confess the uncertainty lingered in the back of my mind.

My curiosity led me to do a bit of research into the symbolism of pine cones. I discovered there was indeed

meaning attached to pine cones, stretching back over thousands of years and across many, many cultures.

Throughout recorded history, it seems pine cones have symbolized human enlightenment, creativity, and immortality and have represented the Third Eye or the seat of the soul, incorporated in many religions and Freemasonry.

I had also heard that the pine cone has been associated with the pineapple, a traditional symbol of welcome.

I still wanted to believe the pine cone on my porch was a prank or a sheer coincidence, but the symbolism certainly intrigued me.

* * * * *

Things were quiet at the house over the next several weeks as we continued our restoration work. One afternoon, as Diane and I were working in the yard south of the house, John Guillaume stopped by. John told us he had rented the house for nearly 24 years, and he then asked a most unusual question: "Do you know the house is haunted?"

I bit my tongue at that point, resisting the urge to share the first thought that came to my mind, "So that explains all the half-empty booze bottles we've been finding hidden around the house."

John proceeded to tell us about some of his experiences in the house, many involving unexplained sounds of footsteps. One scenario that was repeated many times, he said, involved someone running on the top floor, from the south bedroom through the middle bedroom, across the hall and into the north bedroom, culminated by a slamming door.

This was indeed hard for me to believe. The floor of the middle bedroom was so rotted it would have given way to even a small child, and the door to the north bedroom was so warped that we had experienced extreme difficulty in even opening it, and at that point it was impossible to close.

Those upstairs dashing footsteps were light, John explained, like those of a small woman or child. Other times he heard heavier footsteps, he said.

John said another of his frequent experiences involved the sound of marbles. The upstairs floorboards were extremely cupped from the water damage, and John described hearing what he thought were marbles rolling across the room, making a wah-rumph, wah-rumph sound as they traveled across the warped floor.

As weird as those hauntings seemed to us, John also added a story about what seemed to be an alien encounter. He looked out of the bathroom window, he said, and saw two strange beings on the back porch looking back at him. He described them as having large heads, prominent eyes, and elongated arms and legs.

Pictured above, Don Allison is hard at work tuck-pointing bricks as part of his home restoration. Soon after Don and his wife bought the old house, a former tenant told them the house was haunted.

When they saw him at the window, John said, the beings ran off into the cornfield beside the house, not making a sound.

At this point any inclination to believe his earlier stories evaporated. Ghosts were a stretch in their own right, but voyeur aliens as well?

After John left I shared my half-empty booze bottle comment with Diane, and we had a good laugh.

So he believes the place is haunted? Good Lord, I thought.

To find out more about Don's "haunted house," check out the book "I Met a Ghost at Gettysburg: A Journalist's Journey Into the Paranormal" at http://www.imetaghost.com/. ◆

The Old Sardis School: Part 1

By Bob Fountain, spectraltech.org

Very rarely do you get the chance to have your own private location to investigate ongoing paranormal activity whenever you want, unless it's your own house, which is not usually the optimal opportunity you would desire.

What is even rarer is when you have seven years of paranormal activity in a location, and as a paranormal investigator, you never take the time to formally investigate.

Since I am not a professional writer, trying to boil down seven years of activity recorded by others (as well as my own personal experiences) was a task that I did not look forward to completing. On the other hand, as an investigator, I like to share my experiences with others, and there is plenty to share.

The City of Sardis is located in Henderson County in Western Tennessee and has a population of around 390 residents. It boasts of one general store and one restaurant.

How it Began

Along with being a paranormal investigator, I'm also the executive director of a non-profit disaster response organization. In 2009, our organization had the opportunity to acquire a lease for an abandoned school in a small town called Sardis, Tennessee.

Sardis is located in Henderson County in Western Tennessee and has a population of around 390 residents. It boasts one general store and one restaurant. The nearest gas station is five miles away. Basically, it's a town lost in time.

Right in the middle of the town sits the old Sardis school. We were given a 10-year lease by the city for $1, provided we renovated the old school and develop it as a disaster shelter for the community.

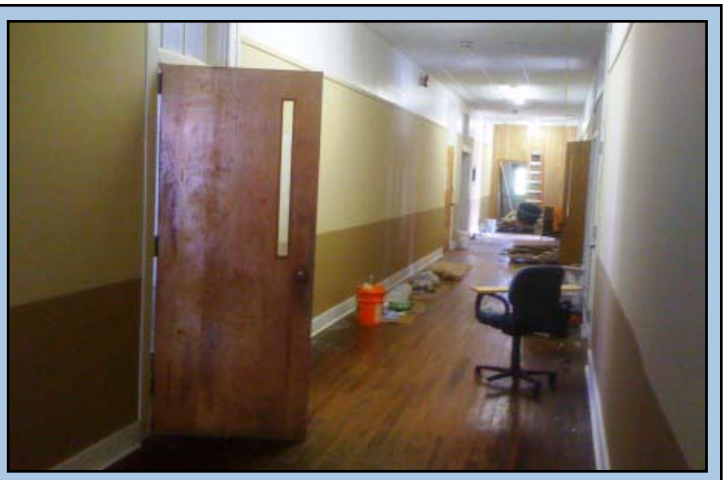
The school was built in 1940 on the same location of the original school, which was built in 1883 and served as a college. The school was a K–12 school. In 1985, the school district consolidated the area schools, and the Sardis school was closed.

The school was laid out in a "U" shape with two wings of classrooms, with an auditorium and stage connecting the two at the end. The main classrooms were upstairs, but the building had several classrooms, the school cafeteria, and a boiler room beneath the main floors.

Over the years after the school closed, it was used as a meeting place for several churches and was also used as a factory for a sportswear company. After the sportswear company closed, it was basically abandoned and left unoccupied for several years.

During our initial visit of the building, we found it to be in horrible shape. The city had repaired the roof, but most of the overhead tiles and insulation on the main floor had since fallen from the ceiling to the floor, which was covered with black mold and debris left from the sportswear company. Most of the electrical wiring was stripped out, and the school had no lights or working receptacles.

The basement area was even worse. Most of the cast



The Old Sardis School, pictured above at left, is home to paranormal activity, including strange noises, apports, full-bodied apparitions, and other phenomena. Pictured above at right is the school's east wing hallway.

iron plumbing was cracked and leaking. The basement area had apparently been flooded several times, and all the floor tiles were curled up and black. We later found the black on the tiles was not mold, but millions of fleas, which is something you never want to experience. As an aside, I have come to the conclusion that millions of fleas have got to be worse than any negative entity or demon you may ever encounter.

As we went through this tour of the building, I could feel that we were not alone. It felt like someone or something was walking directly behind us, following us around during the entire walkthrough. Apparently, I was the only one that sensed we were being accompanied.

After we took ownership of the school, we began in earnest to clean it up and turn it into a shelter, training center, and additionally a focal point for community events.

The Activity Begins

The initial cleanup and restoration was overseen by Scott Mizen, who was in charge of the unit we had in the area. Scott is an electrical engineer and a no-nonsense person who immediately took charge of this project.

Since the building is approximately 100 miles from where the director and I lived, we did not have the day-to-day experiences that Scott later told us about when I asked him if he ever felt that he was not alone in the building.

As Scott and the unit he commanded worked on the school, reports started coming to us about unexplainable occurrences that he and others had while working in the school. Doors rattling, apports (the transference of an article from one place to another without an explanation or the appearance of an object from an unknown paranormal source), and feelings of being watched were common phenomena reported.

Scott said they always joked about what was happening and named whatever was causing it "Fred." I asked why they named it Fred, thinking that perhaps they had some kind of insight communicated to them by the entity. They simply replied that it sounded like something a Fred would do.

Over the years, volunteers would come and go, and many had experiences while working in the school. Some of the notable occurrences included a deputy jailer walking down a hallway when a classroom door swung open rapidly and almost hit him in the face. Upon investigation, he found that there was no one on the other side of the door. Plus, the door would normally close, not open, on its own.

He would not go back into the building after dark after that occurrence. He had no fear of prisoners in his charge, but invisible entities were entirely another matter.

ONE OF THE CLASSROOM DOORKNOBS STARTED RATTLING, AND THE DOOR STARTED SHAKING.

Another instance happened one night when Scott was about to leave the school. As he was leaving, one of the classroom doorknobs started rattling and the door started shaking. He thought he had accidently locked one of his children in the classroom and went to investigate. As soon as he approached the door, the rattling stopped and he found the room to be empty.

Scott told me of one instance where he had a hammer and nails, which he had just placed on the floor. He got down to affix some molding, and when he reached for the hammer, it was not there. He later found it to be on the other side of the auditorium.

Items disappearing and reappearing was a common story during the our first few years working on the old school, and most of the volunteers just assumed it was the chaos of working on a building so large. And it probably was true for several of the stories, but not all of them.

→

Pictured above is the school's boiler room. In the picture above at right, a light anomaly was captured.

One of the major occurrences that piqued my attention was when Scott described a full-body apparition. Scott was working in the auditorium late one night and saw an elderly gentleman he did not recognize standing by the stage. He called out to the man, who was wearing a white shirt, suspenders, and dark pants. As Scott reached for his drink and looked back up, the person had vanished.

Scott went down the hall behind the stage and could not find the gentleman he had seen. He decided that it was all his imagination and just went home. A few days later, his son also saw the same man walking down the hall behind the stage. They ran to the hallway knowing no one could leave, because the exit doors were all locked. They never found this man after a thorough search of rooms in that wing.

"Fred" had certain quirks we picked up on as the reports continued to add up. An area company donated several stackable chairs they used in their training center, which was being remodeled. In the first few years of renovation, we would have to move materials from one area into another and often left these chairs scattered throughout an area we were working. It was not unusual to find these chairs stacked atop one another the next day when we arrived.

One day, Scott even found them stacked right in front of the main entrance door to the building. Apparently, Fred was a neat freak.

This entity seemed to get very upset when we made changes to the existing layout of the building as well. In one wing of the building, we removed several internal walls to combine rooms that were to be male and female dorm rooms for sheltering. Often when people arrived to work, they would find woods scraps they neatly stacked the night before strewn across the floor as if someone had kicked them.

Once, when several people were working on the main floor, they heard glass breaking in one of the downstairs classrooms. Thinking some vandals had broken a window, they went down to check the damage only to find the window had indeed been broken, but from the inside and all the glass was laying on the grass outside.

Throughout the years, activity waxes and wanes and is often predicated by what we are doing to the building.

Personal Experiences

Although it is great to hear experiences from others, they also serve as reinforcement to your own encounters. Two personal experiences convinced me that the school did indeed have a resident spirit.

The first encounter was in fall 2011. We were working on the auditorium on a Friday night, and the next morning I was to teach a class on search and rescue in one of the classrooms. Rather than drive 20 miles away to the nearest motel in Lexington, I decided to continue working and just sleep alone in the school for the night.

Scott reminded me of some of the stories and wished me good luck, but I am not one to be scared by a few "ghost stories" so I stayed anyway.

I settled in for the night in one of the rooms that had a working receptacle and lights. I set up a cot in the middle room and turned out the lights. Around 11 o'clock I heard a set of footsteps walk down the hallway and stop right outside the door to the room. I asked if anyone was there, and there was only silence. I summed it up to being the floors settling and tried to get back to sleep.

Within 10 minutes I heard the footsteps again ending at the door. I yelled out that I was armed, thinking it was actually an intruder. Once again no response. The third time the footsteps came down the hall, I was ready and rapidly opened the door with my 45 in hand (I actually was armed). There was nothing there.

I decided that "Fred" was just having fun at my expense and decided to ignore any more footsteps. I made sure the door was locked and went to sleep.

There were two curtain rods sitting on top of a large file cabinet against one of the walls in the room. At 2 AM, I felt something drop on me and hit the floor. Still not completely awake, I felt a second object hit me and drop on the floor. Now I was awake and turned on a light. Lying on the floor were the two curtain rods that were on top of the file cabinet. They had to have come at almost a 45-degree angle to hit the cot I was on.

Since I was up, I walked through the auditorium and down a darkened hall to use the bathroom. I had an overwhelming feeling that someone was right next to me the whole way. I went back to the room, locked the door, and looked at my watch setting on a table. It was 2:10 AM, and I knew I needed to get up early to prepare for the morning class. I quickly went back to sleep and woke up at 6 AM. As I was getting dressed, I went to put on my watch and noticed it said it was only 2:20. On closer inspection, I found that the pin on the watch had been pulled out, stopping the watch.

There is no way to rationally explain how two curtain rods lifted off a cabinet and moved at an angle to hit a cot four feet away. The same goes for a watch being stopped in a locked room.

The second event happened six months later when I was working late to trim out a bathroom. I had just turned on an air compressor in the hallway and got down on the floor in the bathroom to nail some floorboards in place.

THE THIRD TIME THE FOOTSTEPS CAME DOWN THE HALL, I WAS READY.

The air compressor shut off almost immediately after I got on the floor. I knew it wasn't charged and went out to inspect it. I found the button had been pushed down. Thinking it must have vibrated off, I turned it back on, making sure it was locked in place.

When I went back in the bathroom and sat down, it turned off again. Again, I got up and went out to turn it on, but this time I stood there and challenged "Fred" to turn it off while I was standing there. Although the area got extremely cold and I had the sense of not being alone, the compressor fully charged and I finished my trim work.

When I was wrapping up for the night, I placed all my tools in a box, with my circular saw being the last thing I put in the box. I went down the hall to the auditorium to get a broom to clean up where I was working and noticed when I returned my circular saw was sitting in the middle of the floor. I believe this was "Fred" letting me know he didn't like being challenged.

Stay tuned for Part 2 in next month's issue.◆

3 ASTOUNDING WORKS BY THE MAN WHO SAW ACROSS TIME

Nikola Tesla's suppressed inventions seized by CIA upon death! His super weapons manipulated by NWO for military purposes?

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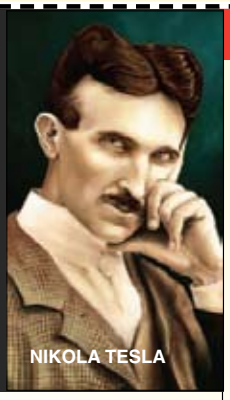
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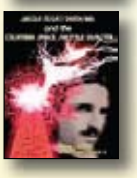

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'BREAK THIS! (300 MOONS)': By Tasha Black

Q&A by Michelle M. Pillow, www.MichellePillow.com

Tasha Black is a *USA Today* bestselling author of paranormal and sci-fi romance. She lives in a big, old Victorian in a tiny college town. She loves reading anything she can get her hands on, making up stories, and sipping pumpkin spice lattes.

She is the author of *Break This! (A 300 Moons Book).* Tasha recently spoke to *Paranormal Underground* magazine about her inspirations, world-building, and paranormal experiences.

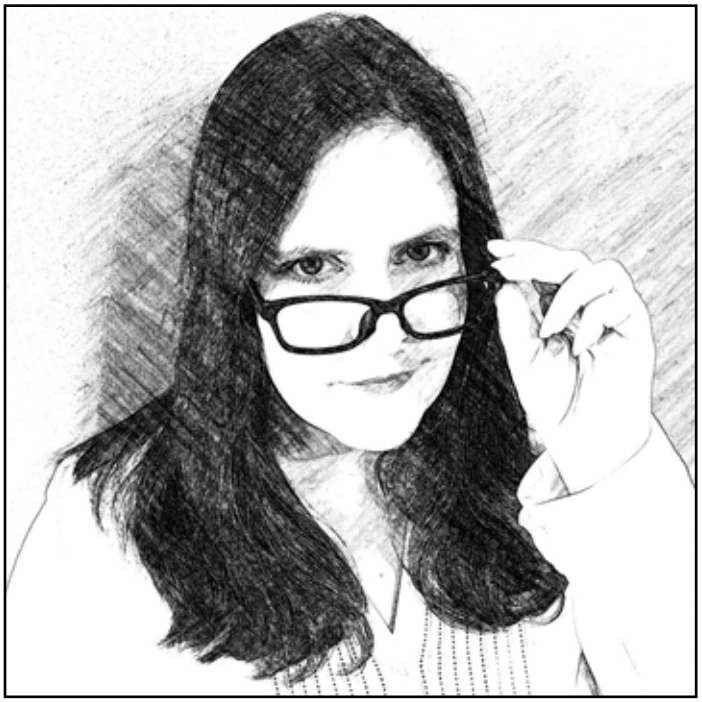
* * * * *

Q: In your book, *Break This!,* the heroine, Thea, is a plus-sized model with magical powers that allow her to control electricity. Though she has always loved comic books and superheroes, Thea winds up using her powers to commit high-level crimes. What inspired you to create such a character?

Tasha: I've often wondered why more magical characters don't use their powers for evil! The temptation to do so must be great. Thea is inherently a good person, but she gets mixed up with the wrong crowd. All is almost lost before she meets Chance, and her love for him makes her look at her own life in a different way.

Thea also begins to have trouble controlling her powers when her emotions are in play. I loved the idea of writing about someone so incredibly powerful who could become frustratingly vulnerable when love is on the line.

Meanwhile, as Thea tries to harness her powers, Chance, who is a bear shifter, is trying to squelch his. He dreams of becoming an MMA champion and, of course, he can't do that in a human world if he shifts into a bear at the slightest confrontation. It's a real problem, and one that Thea helps him solve rather uniquely, I must say!



Paranormal and sci-fi romance author Tasha Black is currently working on an alien romance that "has whispers of '*Stranger in a Strange Land.*'"

Q: When world building, did you base your story off of known myths throughout history?

Tasha: You know it's funny that you asked this; another writer and I are working on the premise for a story based on a famous myth, and I'm really looking forward to it, but we'll save that for when that story comes out!

Yes, I've based my stories on classic tales — *The*

Clockwork Dragon is in essence a grown-up version of *The Nutcracker*. And my writing is influenced by so many of the books I read growing up.

I'm working on an alien romance right now that has whispers of *Stranger in a Strange Land*, which itself was a sort of inside-out version of *The New Testament*. I've heard it said that there are no new stories — and I guess it's true that we can find Shakespeare and Greek mythology in everything from comic books to *Martha Stewart Living* magazine!

Q: What are your favorite paranormal shows, movies, and books?

Tasha: I thought that I could never love another show the way I loved and lingered over *True Blood*. I loved the strong female characters, the hot guys, the humor, the Southern-ness of it all. Watching that show was like getting into a bathtub filled with awesomeness and soaking it into your pores. That first season was pure crack, and I'll bet lots of other authors tell you the same!

And then there was *Stranger Things*! What an incredible experience to get to know those characters and scream my lungs out on their behalf.

I'll admit to the guilty pleasure of watching the *Teen Wolf* show and even the *Twilight* movies. (And yes, I sure did read that book and *A Shade of Vampire* too, and loved them both!)

The Paper Magician was a recent read that was so much fun and so unique! I wish I had written it! As well as so many great books by authors I've been lucky enough to meet. (Ahem, I'm looking at YOU Michelle M. Pillow!)

And of course *Harry Potter*!

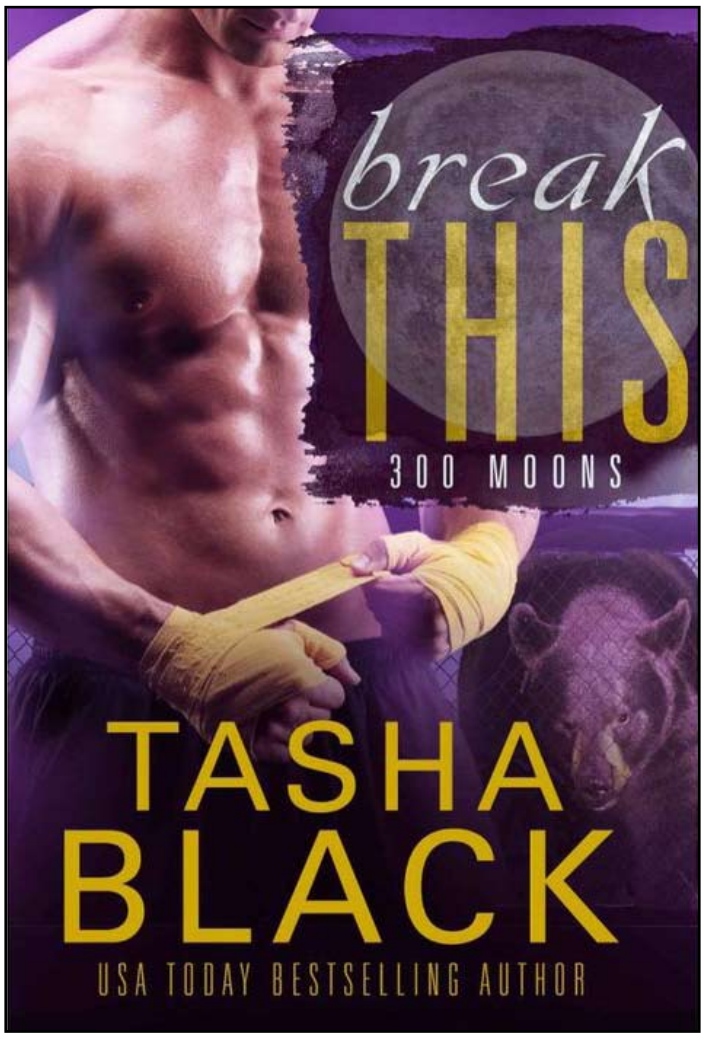
I'm grateful to the creators of these shows, books, and movies — they've shaped a generation of paranormal enthusiasts like me and like our readers!

Q: Have you ever had a paranormal experience?

Tasha: When I was a kid my mom bought a house in West Virginia, and we lived there for a short time. The house was on the creek that wended between the two mountains that contained our small town. The main road also followed the creek from the old abandoned coal yard past our house and into the village.

I was a latchkey kid, so one day I came home alone after school and heard someone on the porch. They began shaking the frame of my bedroom window so hard I thought the glass would break. My bedroom was in the front of the house on the first floor, so I stepped out the front door right away to see what was wrong.

But no one was there.



In Tasha Black's *Break This! (300 Moons Series)*, "Sparks fly when a world-class MMA fighting bear shifter and a plus-size model with a special talent end up as unlikely allies."

From the front porch I could see down the steps to the street, and no one was there.

I could see all the way down the street, what would have been a block or two in either direction. There was no one. I was afraid to go back in the house so I sat on the porch until dark, when my mother finally came home. She laughed at me and said it must have been my imagination.

But when I asked the lady at the library if our house might be haunted, she got a funny look on her face. The story went that there had once been a mining accident where a lot of local men were lost.

I began to picture it. A woman in what was now my room standing at the window, looking out down over the creek to the road from the coal yard. They would have sent her home when she arrived at the mine, hearing of the accident. Over the hours that passed, she would have seen other husbands walking home, but not her own.

→

Would she have shaken the window frame, hard enough to break the glass in her frustration?

Q: If given the chance, would you become a shifter, a vampire, or to have magic?

Tasha: If I were given the choice to become a shifter, a vampire, or to have magic, I think I would choose the magic. It seems that those who have a touch of magic can move between the paranormal and the regular world with ease.

Also I'm thinking that my house would be a lot cleaner if I could make it clean itself! And that would leave more time for writing!

Q: What does the future hold for *300 Moons*?

Tasha: Kate Harkness had a lot of foster kids, so there are many more stories to tell! For example, the other three books in the series, *Burn This*, *Bait This*, and *Bite This*, are already out. And a holiday novella is on its way. It's called *Bake This!* — and it's about how Chance's foster brother, Will — a wolf shifter — falls in madly love with a witch who is helping him bake holiday pies to support the Tarker's Hollow Fire Department bake sale. Isn't that silly? We all need to get silly sometimes — even if we are writing about seriously sexy beast-men, right?

Of course, *300 Moons* takes place in Tarker's Hollow — a small college town with a secret wolf pack. A lot has happened in that town lately, and there will be more adventures as Ainsley Connor, the alpha of the Tarker's Hollow pack, tackles the portal of evil spirits that was opened in her beloved town!

Q: Choose your fate: Would you rather face being abducted by menacing aliens or the face imminent threat of zombies? Why?

Tasha: I think I would choose the zombies. I mean it's easy to know what they want, and they aren't that smart. Also, my husband would be terrified, and that would be super funny.

Q: If you could be anywhere while writing, where would you be and why?

Tasha: I would love to write on a screen porch under a ceiling fan with a bottomless glass of lemonade by my side. Actually, who am I kidding? I'd like to be there for all of life's events.

But, if I can't have the screened porch, then I'm thinking poolside with handsome suitors to fetch my drinky-poo! Or maybe sitting on the dock of a pond with the mist lifting off the surface of the water. Now you're just making me resent my boring office chair!

* * * * *

To learn more about Tasha Black and her books, visit http://www.tashablack.com/. ◆

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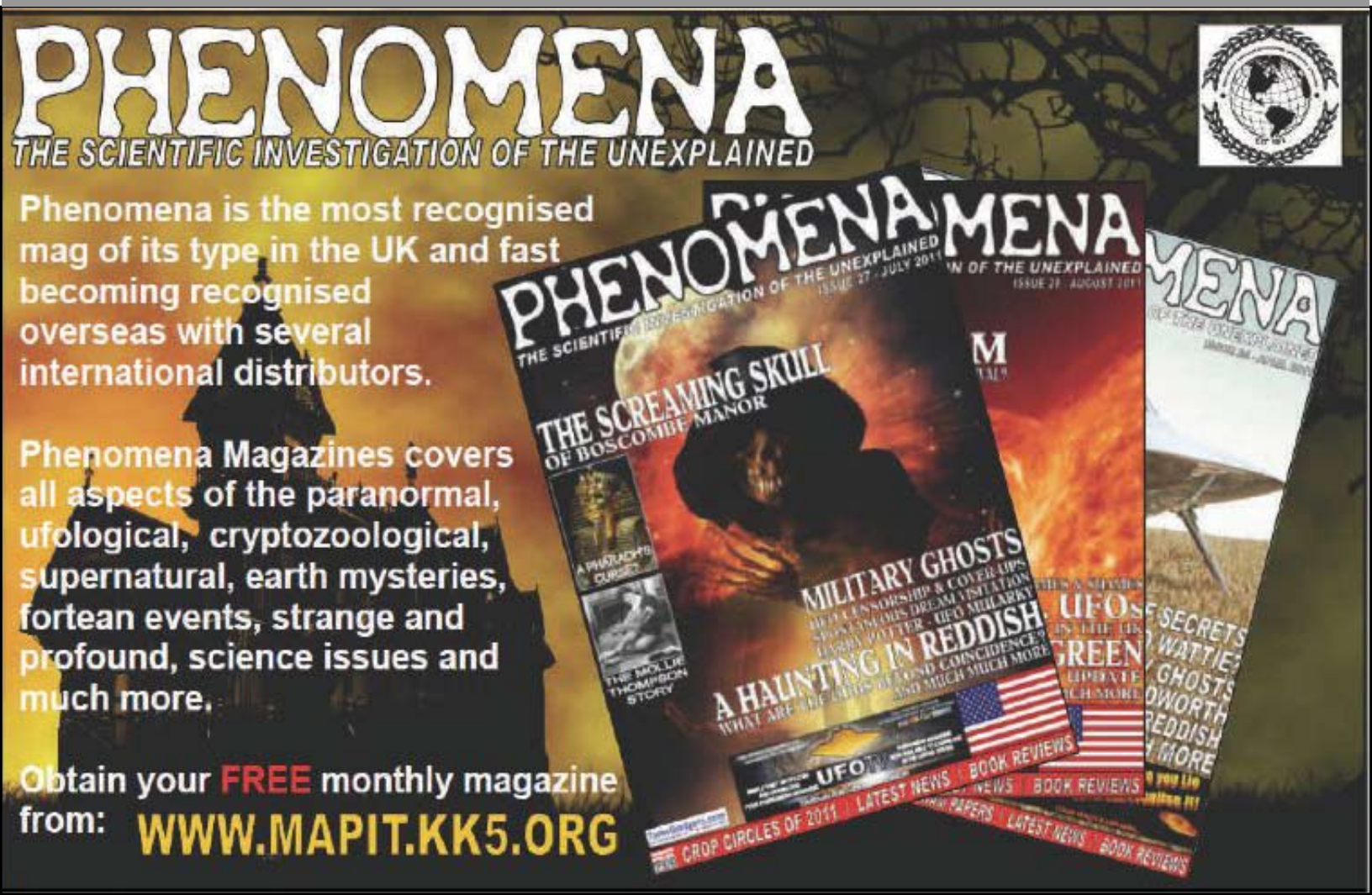
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THE SIBOLD EFFECT:

Beyond Science, History, Ghosts, and the Appalachian Supernatural

Excerpt from 'The Sibold Effect,' a novel by John David Miller

The following is an excerpt from 'The Sibold Effect: Beyond Science, History, Ghosts, and the Appalachian Supernatural' by John David Miller, republished with permission. Copyright © 2016.

Is this my destiny? Is this the predetermined path for the rest of my life? Playing in the caves beneath my grandparents' farm in Greenville, West Virginia, instilled in me this overwhelming passion, or more like a compulsion, to probe and investigate this curious kinship we all share with Mother Earth.

It was the fall of 2002, and the group of us were sitting on the deck of the *Golden Dawn* anchored in the harbor off Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea. We were waiting for dusk so that we could shimmy down the anchor line with our lights off, hoping to get a glimpse of flashlight fish pouring out of the cargo hold of a sunken fishing trawler. The wreck was sitting on the bottom of the harbor floor 100 feet down. Flashlight fish only come out on moonless nights, about 30 minutes after dusk when it becomes pitch black.

It was our last dive on this trip before we had to pack up and head home half a world away. The discussion on the deck at the time was how the Motuan, the indigenous people of Port Moresby, Papua New Guinea, were treated by the British in the 1800s, much like the American Indians during the colonializing of America. At 10 a.m. on February 20, 1873, almost 100 years after the American Revolution, the English captain, John Moresby of the *HMS Basilisk*, claimed the land of Papua New Guinea for Britain and named it after his father, Admiral Sir Fairfax Moresby. He called the inner reach Fairfax Harbor and the other Port Moresby. The Motuan were considered savages and uncivilized heathens that had no right to the land of their ancestors.

These discussions always got lively and entertaining among my travel buddies, who were a very diverse bunch. They were political opposites and geographically separated by oceans. From China to California, from the Appalachian Mountains to the English countryside, we had it all pretty much covered. I was the hillbilly of the group.

It had been a successful and rewarding dive trip to the Coral Sea, located between northern Australia and Papua New Guinea. It was a somewhat unusual dive trip in that we were diving sea mounts in the rain all week and never saw any land. These sea mounts were the tops of underwater mountains covered with coral heads and lava tubes.

The flashlight fish showed up right on cue, and it was amazing. They came out all at once and, like water from a fire hose, exploded out of the hold. When they came out on that moonless night, they were lit up like it was Christmas. Flashlight fish are two or three inches long and have pockets under their eyes that are filled with biolumines-

cent bacteria that produces their bright glow. Not unlike squid, cuddle fish, and other creatures of light, they can sync and resonate with Earth's hidden energy as if they were all connected wirelessly.

Is this what I am supposed to be doing, exploring faraway places, looking for the unknown, searching for the obscure, chasing encounters with wild animals? This compulsion to make that connection to the natural world has been with me all my life. Even though it has not been exactly clear, there has always been the presence of a higher spirit, or maybe a guardian angel, that always seems to be close by. It seemed important to always listen to that inner voice, that sudden revelation of intuition; it has never let me down.

It was now nearing the end of the trip, and the next hurdle was to figure out how to make a satellite phone call back to Virginia. The five-second delay made the call very difficult, so I had to wait till I arrived in Cairns, Australia, to make a clear call home. The gang of us on the boat for the last night were already discussing where our next adventure might be. In the running were the Andaman Islands off the coast of India, or maybe a liveaboard dive trip traveling around the Island of Borneo and a visit with the orangutans. Little did I know that my life's path and direction was getting ready to take a hard right turn up a steep Appalachian mountainside.

* * * * *

It wasn't until my arrival in Cairns that I was able to make a clear phone call home. My girlfriend had just started vet school at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia, and we were looking for a house for her to live in while she was in school. We had a realtor looking around for quite a while and hadn't seen much, until that day, when he called out of the blue and said he had a friend who was going to list a property the next day and it just might be the place we were looking for. Well, being in Australia at the time and not seeing the place first, I told her that if she liked it, to go on and put a low offer on it and we would see what happened. The plan was to call back the next day from Sydney.

This was the age before the cell phone, and there was only a small window of opportunity to find that bank of pay phones somewhere in the Sydney international terminal before my flight left for the 16-hour flight to LAX and then on to Richmond. Only having a couple of minutes to talk, I was told that there were three other offers on the property and the realtor had not yet put our offer in. The only thing my girlfriend mentioned was that it had a decent view; she wasn't very persuasive either way. But, something deep inside said go ahead and make another offer and this time at $1,000 over the asking price. The phone call ended, and I ran like OJ through the terminal to get to my departure gate.

These long plane rides were not too bad anymore, as some of my travel buddies were emergency room doctors and had access to sleeping pills that will knock you out cold for eight to 10 hours. And, if you sync the sleep time to California time, the jet lag heading east isn't so bad. During the long layover at LAX and upon arrival, I looked for a pay phone to check in back home.

Well, my bid was the winning bid. I was now the owner of an old house somewhere in the Appalachian Mountains of Virginia, and I knew absolutely nothing about it. I don't really believe in coincidences, so I was wondering what I might find when I finally was able to see it. This just might get interesting. The only thing known about the house was that it sat in a rural area near Blacksburg, Virginia, called Clover Hollow. Some of these places can really be run down and need a lot of work to get up and running, so I braced myself and was prepared for anything.

* * * * *

The first time I saw the place, I could not believe my eyes. It was a beautiful country house with a wraparound covered porch and a tin roof. Walking up on the porch for the first time, the strong surge of chill bumps started to form along my spine as I gazed out over Sinking Creek flowing west over a dam and then heading northwestwardly through the Appalachian Mountains. If you closed your eyes, you could easily mistake the water falling over the dam and hitting the rocks below for ocean waves crashing on the beach. Nothing but a natural wonderland in all directions and a dream come true. I had died and gone to Heaven. The Earth's natural energy emanating around me was palpable.

This did not seem real. In front of me was a place

→

as beautiful as I had ever seen. It was the strongest of notions that I had been summoned here for a reason and a purpose, and it looked like it was going to take some investigating to see what else might be buried and hidden away in Clover Hollow. You couldn't help but notice that something very special lay before your eyes. From that moment on I kept my camera close by, just in case.

* * * * *

Just a week or so after closing, I received a letter in the mail from the insurance company stating they had an issue with insuring the place because their records showed that the property was sitting in a 100-year flood plain. This sounded strange to me since the house and property sits up on the side of a mountain. I found a copy of the plat to see where the problem may lie. Turns out that the bottom of the driveway where the mailbox stands sits down next to the creek, which of course is in a flood plain. That wasn't the jaw dropper that made me go find a chair, it was the name written down at the bottom right-hand corner of the plat — Frank W. Sibold.

Sibold is not a very common name, but it did happen to be my mother's maiden name. I did know that some Sibolds were from the Blacksburg area, and I did know they had something to do with Virginia Tech. Oh yeah, I also spent every summer as a kid in Greenville, West Virginia, not 30 miles northwest of Clover Hollow as the crow flies. It is where both sets of my grandparents, the Millers and Sibolds, lived across the street from each other. All the thoughts of purpose and why I am here came rushing back to me. What did all this mean? All of a sudden I was flooded with unanswered questions, like why was I brought here, what was I supposed to find, and where was I supposed to look?

It didn't take long to find out that of the first five women to graduate Virginia Tech in 1925, two of them, Lucy Lee Lancaster and Carrie Sibold, were cousins of mine. Lucy Lee became the librarian at Virginia Tech for the next 52 years. Her interest lay in travel and genealogy, and her papers are now archived at the Virginia Tech Library. She left 40 boxes, or 40 cubic feet of genealogical documents in her collection.

It took over 10 years to piece together the history associated with this little piece of land, and it's mostly unbelievable. The house sits on the side of the hill and was built before 1890. It was built with two rooms on two rooms and built as the miller's house, the house where the mill manager lived. Price's Mill and dam sat about 100 yards down the hill on Sinking Creek. Only the dam and house remain today.

One of the first white settlers to the area and who chose this strategic piece of property for a mill site just happened to be John Michael Price, my first-generation grandfather, one of three first-generation grandfathers that came to the New World together on the ship Winter Galley in 1738. They became founding fathers of the German New River Settlement in 1740 when they settled around the horseshoe bottoms on the New River. The other two first-generation grandfathers were John Phillip Harless and John Phillip Sibold. They too have a connection to this little piece of Earth in Clover Hollow.

This place also had a direct connection to Paleo-Indians, Cherokee Indians, the Draper's Meadow Massacre, the French and Indian War, the Revolutionary War, James Patton, George Washington, and William Preston, among many others. The historical imprint on this specific spot has been heavy.

One would think the story ends there, but that would be a mistake. When the last renter moved out and I took my chance and moved in, the strangest of all things began. It was just a few weeks before paranormal and supernatural activity began to occur in and around the house. It really would not have been mentioned, had it not been all caught on film. During the next year, my house in Clover Hollow was visited by entities manifesting themselves in a variety of ways; like orbs, ectoplasm, mist, and shape shifting glowing sparkles. Was the house I now live in haunted by the ghosts of my ancestors, or was this place possibly being visited by the Indian spirits of those tribes who had once lived on this land?

Evidence gathered suggests the real possibility of energetic entities that may be manifesting themselves as ghosts, Indian spirits, or some other supernatural phenomena.

Ruled out were insects, snowflakes, and figments of my imagination, thanks to the photographic evidence. My sense at the time was that this phenomenon was mischievous and playful by nature, and they were deliberately, almost purposely, letting me photograph them. It was like they were trying to show me something, or tell me something, and I knew that if I kept my eyes open and my camera close, I would surely find out what's going on.

During investigations of the property, strange and mysterious electromagnetic field disruptions occurred in different areas of the property that made the needle of my compass rotate on its axis. Gauss meter readings and dowsing rods were used to locate the hot spots that were scattered across the site. This was clear evidence of an active geodesic zone, meaning a geological energetic site.

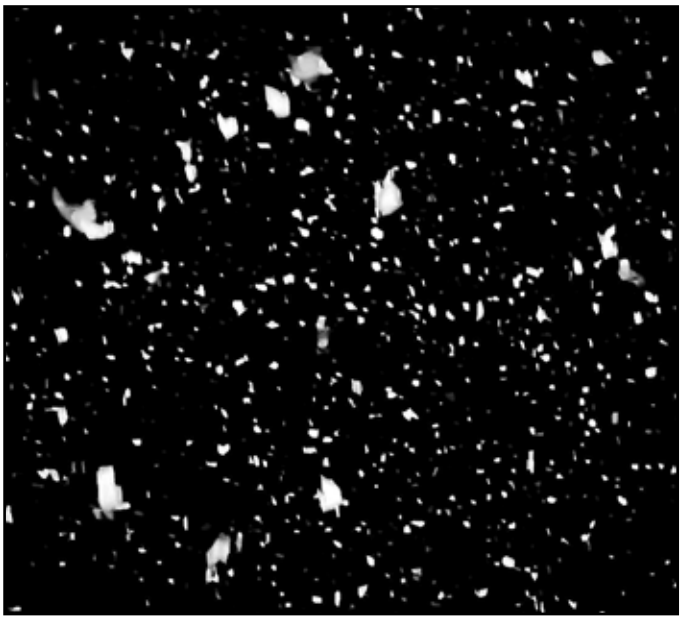
Sinking Creek out front flows west and empties into the New River. Sinking Creek is a major tributary of the New River and begins as a spring on top of a surrounding mountain. The name Sinking Creek comes from the fact that the creek travels at times underground through limestone bedrock on its journey to the New River.

The New River is known to be one of the oldest rivers in the world — on par with the Nile in Egypt. It is thought to be over 65 million years old and probably preceded the mountain-building process that created the Appalachian Mountains. This may be a factor in the prehistoric nature and ancient feel of Clover Hollow and Sinking Creek.

Have my ancestors returned as ghosts and made contact with me from beyond the Grave?

Over time, watching the property on a day-to-day basis, it was noticed that every time there was a weather event, like rain or snow, there would be some sort of off-gassing of Sinking Creek and the creek would erupt like a bubbling witch's cauldron. I began photographing and videotaping the creek during these events. Video screenshots in this book will show strange light forms and odd creatures traveling through and above the water. Again, it would not have been mentioned without the abundant documented evidence. It was clear Clover Hollow was erupting with strange and mysterious supernatural activity whose messages have not yet been deciphered.

Bob Dylan might say a "Simple Twist of Fate" occurred that day in February 2013 when I gazed out over the dam after a light snow. Because of the contrast between the snow and the dead brown leaves, a recognizable outline of an old trail crossing over the side of the



mountain and running right across my yard clearly came into view. This would turn out to be the same trail that 20 Shawnee warriors retreated across carrying Mary Ingles, three other hostages, and Phillip Barger's head in a burlap sack. They crossed my property on July 8, 1755, just one day before General Braddock's Defeat and the unofficial start of the French and Indian War. It was the same day Colonel James Patton was assassinated at Draper's Meadow on his 63 birthday, just seven miles down the Indian trail from my property in Clover Hollow.

It was known that an old Indian trail was located nearby but believed to have been completely covered up when the Price mill was built in the 1840s and a road was cut in down beside the creek. A closer look now revealed a small piece of that trail still cut across the property and then came to an abrupt stop on the side of the mountain overlooking the road and dam below. At the edge of the trail, where it looked like nobody had stood for over 200 years, was a very strange rock that looked like it might be some sort of pioneering or survey trail-marker. It had odd markings of an unknown type carved over the entire surface. It turns out that rock was no 18th Century trail-marker, but just one of a whole complex of petroglyphs of unknown origin, more than likely thousands of years old. These newly discovered carved stone panels, megaliths, and portable artifacts were abstract, creative, unique, artistic, clever, crumbling, and alien in nature.

Because of a trip to Peru and a hike to Machu Picchu, I was able to put some of the pieces of the puzzle called Clover Hollow back in Virginia together. After finding a connection between the ruins of Saksayhuaman, Ollantaytambo, and Machu Picchu to Clover Hollow, I was

able to formulate some possible explanations that might unlock some of the mysteries at the Price Mill site.

It became quite clear to me early on that there were no experts in the academic community that had the knowledge or interest in what was happening in Clover Hollow. As many archaeologist and university department heads that could be found were contacted, including the State Archaeologist at the Virginia Department of Historical Resources. Every American Indian expert that I could find an email address for was also contacted, but no one had the prehistoric expertise that I needed.

It looked like I was completely alone in my investigation, and the clues that I had been given all pointed to the unknown. The documented evidence collected fell into three categories: natural, supernatural, and the historical record. The answers to some of the mysteries at Clover Hollow may lie somewhere in the historical record and may also provide additional clues as to my own connection to this place. The first place I needed to get to was the library at Virginia Tech where the Lucy Lee Lancaster Collection was stored. After studying 40 boxes of genealogical documents, much pertaining to eight generations of three of my bloodlines, I got the overwhelming feeling that the information put into those cardboard boxes were specifically put there for me to find.

* * * * *

The conclusions that have emerged I believe are true. They are both unconventional and controversial, yet they are the only theories that can be supported by the documented evidence consisting of high-resolution photographs, videos, and the historical record. My research goes back to the beginning of time and has been sewn into a quite unbelievable storyline that is absolutely true according to my research. What appears to be thousands of random coincidences and pieces of a giant puzzle actually fit tightly together, connected with purpose and a reason for their existence. The answers to this paradox were eventually found buried deep into the roots of my religious and spiritual beliefs.

The most important clue that I have been given is so profound that it shakes me to the core. It is the simple fact that a randomly purchased piece of property turned out to be directly connected to three first-generation grandfathers. There are only two explanations as to how this could have happened. First, you would have to believe that this random purchase and connection to three bloodlines is purely coincidental, almost a statistical impossibility as far as I can tell. But if it wasn't coincidence, then it would mean that it must have happened for a reason. Therein lies the spiritual conundrum; are my ancestors somehow responsible for bringing me to Clover Hollow?

This opens up a myriad of unanswered questions and a collection of seemingly unrelated clues:

1. Why was I brought here?
2. What is my connection to this place?
3. What is the historical imprint of this property?
4. Who carved the petroglyphs?
5. What's the connection between the petroglyphs and my ancestors?
6. What's the connection between the petroglyphs and the American Indian?
7. What is the geological footprint of this little piece of energetic property?
8. What are the unidentified flying objects airborne around the property?
9. What are the unidentified swimming objects darting around Sinking Creek?
10. Have my ancestors returned as ghosts and made contact with me from beyond the Grave?

The only thing I know for certain is that there are no coincidences, everything happens for a reason, and everything is connected.

To read more from 'The Sibold Effect: Beyond Science, History, Ghosts, and the Appalachian Supernatural' by John David Miller, visit https://www.amazon.com/Sibold-Effect-Science-Appalachian-Supernatural/dp/0990777715.◆

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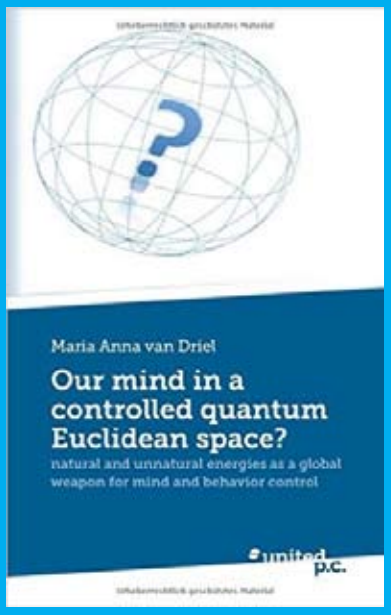
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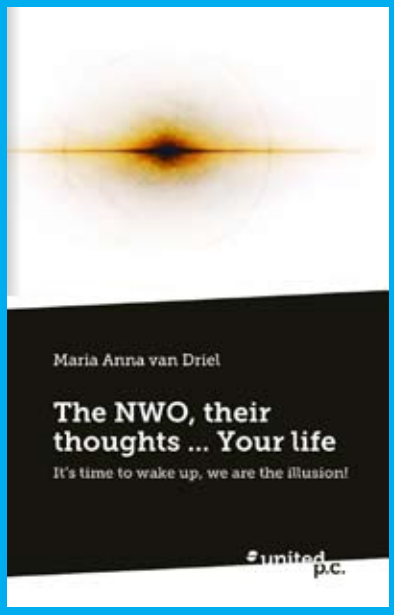

THE USE OF STATISTICS IN THE AGE OF AQUARIUS

By Leon Lester, www.leonlester.com.au

Much of the history of humanity and its decision-making on earth has not been graced with the access to high-minded tools like statistics that provide insight into understanding the world around it. Only recently has man's cognition been able to intelligently and accurately produce statistics that reliably provide information about trends occurring on the Earth.

Now, however, statistics are overthrowing the myth-like stories told by the men of religion or other self-proclaimed soothsayers, as well as slowly overcoming the kind of hype the modern maverick salesman or politician might create to achieve a purely self-interested outcome.

In the Age of Aquarius, the use of higher-minded tools, such as statistics and the ability to use them to construct a picture of reality, is the first step for humanity in evolving its awareness beyond pure story, religion, or myth. Why does it have the power to overcome story that is not rooted in reality?

Because statistics are based on pure observation. It is like counting up the number of chickens ... 1, 2, 3, 4. If done with perfect observation, there is only one answer or truth for everyone that observes them.

In the coming years, the power of statistics will be integrated more and more into the overall human mental plane, such that the logic of cause and effect is registrable by virtually everyone on the planet. Wars or arguments between people based on different belief structures will become more and more rare as people turn to "actual observation" to determine the truth of a matter.

Climate statistics, for example, are now inarguably accepted in virtually every country around the world and surpass other unproven notions, such as those pertaining to religion, myth, or philosophy, etc. This is mankind waking up his cognition. It's a very Aquarian trait to be gifted with higher cognitive intelligence, and in the beginning of the Age of Aquarius, it not surprising that much of humanity is beginning to integrate these types of mental tools into their life.

Even astrology, something you would not expect to be validated by statistics, has indeed been shown to be statistically true.

French psychologist, statistician, and astrologer Michel Gauquelin way back in the 1950s proved what is called the "Mars effect" — that is a purported statistical correlation between athletic eminence and the position of the planet Mars relative to the horizon at time and place of birth. Gauquelin suggested that a statistically significant number of sports champions are born just after the planet Mars rises or culminates. Gauquelin's work was accepted by the notable psychologist and statistician Hans Eysenck, among others.

Nowadays, virtually every university faculty and research department rely on statistics in order to justify a proposition or prove the validity of something. This is a massive leap forward in cognition compared to many decades ago when it was not known whether something like long-term smoking caused cancer and heart disease.

Statistics are here to stay and will, as the world further evolves, throw myth, religion, philosophy, and common opinion — indeed any non-observable truth — out the window of what is considered "real."

Note: This editorial is the sole opinion of the author and does not necessarily reflect the opinions of Paranormal Underground magazine or its advertisers.◆

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